

Salado Village Voice

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Salado merchants hope for another great Stroll weekend

With spectacular, crisp weather last weekend, Salado merchants have reported that the first weekend of the Salado Christmas Stroll was a tremendous success.

In fact, some businesses have labeled it the best ever for their individual locations.

Shops, galleries, restaurants and bed and breakfast inns are keeping their fingers crossed for the same kind of success for the second weekend of the Salado Stroll.

The historic Texas Village of Salado's downtown will be frosted in the

white lights of the holiday as strolling carolers and traditional musicians will complement the 24th Annual Salado Christmas Stroll Dec. 8-10. The shops, galleries and restaurants throw open their doors to offer an alternative to the bland cookie cutter approach to Christmas found in the malls, big box retail outlets and Walmart.

In the sparkle of thousands of white lights, the lyrics of a Christmas carol drifting from a nearby courtyard, strollers will feel as if they have been let in on a great secret.

Tablerock Amphitheater will present its unique version of "A Christmas Carol" this weekend of the Stroll. See related story, this page for details.

There will be live seasonal music at various spots around town with strolling carolers, choirs and other musical acts. Turn to page 2B of this edition *Salado Village Voice* for the most up-to-date schedule of music and other events for the second weekend of the stroll.

The First Baptist Church will feature a "live nativity" again this weekend of The Stroll.



Charlie Voelter will portray Ebenezer Scrooge during the Dec. 8-9 performances of *A Christmas Carol* at Tablerock.

Christmas Carol finale Dec. 8-9

Tablerock Festival of Salado will present the final 2006 performance of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at 7 p.m. on Dec. 8-9 at Tablerock's Goodnight Amphitheater on Royal Street in Salado.

The stage adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* was written by Harry Sweet. Mr. Sweet will also direct this classic story of Christmas eve in the life of Eb-

enezer Scrooge, epitome of greed and self-interest, in 1843 London.

Through ghosts and supernatural interventions Scrooge is given the opportunity to transform himself into a man of compassion.

In addition to the regular food sold beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Tablerock concessions, the Salado Rotary Club will sell homemade chili, cornbread and

a drink for \$5 per person. All proceeds going toward construction of Tablerock restrooms and concession stand. Bring warm wraps.

Tickets sold only at the gate on performance nights, \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

For more information about *A Christmas Carol* or other performances at Tablerock, call 254-947-9205.

Community Chorus sets Christmas concert Dec. 9

The Salado Community Chorus will present its 12th Annual Christmas Concert 7 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Salado Civic Center.

Patty Campbell, chorus president, describes the Christmas Concert as a mixture of upbeat music, combined with traditional Christmas pieces. Complimentary refreshments will be served at the performance.

There are no tryouts for the Salado Community Chorus. The choral group, under the direction of choral master Dr. Kim Van Cura celebrates the love of music and each singer personally experiences the joy of singing.

Jean Teal, a long-time member of the chorus, says "people who enjoy singing get a great joy that is inspirational."

The Salado Choral welcomed many newcomers to the group this year.

One new member, Connie Wagner from Temple, said that she feels the chorus is important to her because "singing feeds my soul. It puts me in a place like nothing else can."

The group's well-accomplished adults have a passion for song, they say.

Each Tuesday evening at 6 p.m., the group assembles and Dr. Van Cura asks the group for vocal expression. The singing is piano-accompanied by Dr. Van Cura, and two members of the chorus, June Willingham and Bobbie Reihnsen, say they "listen to Kim's expert playing with deep appreciation." Willingham went on to say, "It is so amazing what Dr. Kim gets out of us with her talent. It is like a concert for us at every week's rehearsal."

Adva Volle added, "The director gives us so much to work with."

Dr. Kim's ability surges

through her, and the group returns her energy in song.

Currently there are five married couples who find singing together an important and fun night out. Nancy and Billy Thompson travel from the Holland area. They say the chorus is important to them because "we both enjoy singing, plus the camaraderie of this group makes us feel a part of the community." Billy went on to say "Singing here is exciting. It gets you in the Spirit of Christmas."

The chorus even bridges the generation gap. Wayne Jackson and his daughter, Donna Jackson, drive from Belton for "the opportunity of singing a variety of music."

During the Christmas stroll, the chorus will sing their way through downtown Salado for two hours, celebrating a Christmas tradition 5-7 p.m. Dec. 2.

Aldermen meet Dec. 7

Village of Salado aldermen will conduct a public hearing 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Municipal Building on Stagecoach Rd. to amend the zoning ordinance to include "Auction Business" among the acceptable uses for Retail zoned areas.

The public hearing is one of several items on the regular agenda for aldermen. The board will also hear reports from the Chief of Police and Tourism Director as part of the meeting.

In unfinished business, aldermen will discuss possible city limits signs for the Village. Aldermen Curt Strong will address the issue.

New business items include the following:

- Presentation of the audit report with discussion led by Village Treasurer Eldon Miller.

- Recommendation from Planning and Zoning on Windmill Estates Road Width Variance (Mayor Ashe)

- Recommendation from Planning and Zoning on Zoning Ordinance Amendment Request to Add Auction Business to Use Chart (Mayor Ashe) Public Hearing Item

- Accepting Credit Card Payments (Alderman Strong)

- Amending Zoning Ordinance to include a Fee for Requests to Amend Zoning Ordinance (Mayor Ashe)

- Report on Central Texas Council of Govern-

ments Strategic Plan (Alderman Strong)

- Purchase of Tables and Chairs for Pace Park (Mayor Ashe)

- TXU Underground Wires Along Main Street (Alderman Mills)

- Report on Economic Development Seminar (Alderman Stalcup).

The board will discuss hiring a part-time Village Assistant during executive session. Any action taken resulting from the executive session discussion will be taken when the board returns to open session

Anyone wishing to address the board of aldermen, may sign up for the Citizens' Comments prior to the meeting.



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Salado Lions Club Pancake Breakfast

All You Want Pancakes & Sausage

7:30-10:30 a.m. Dec. 9

Church of Christ Activity Center

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FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas



The amnesty fallacy

Little did voters know it, but on Nov. 7 they were delivering a mandate for amnesty for illegal immigrants. Most of them probably thought they were voting on the Iraq War or on corruption, but elite opinion-makers have decided that they also were panting for a laxer immigration policy.

There's no doubt that electing a Democratic Congress furthers the cause of an amnesty and guest-worker program by removing the main obstacle to both: the Republican majority in the House. But there is no good evidence that championing strict immigration enforcement was a loser for Republicans, or that voters elected Democrats explicitly to permit illegals already in this country to stay and to invite more of their brethren to come. Any suggestion otherwise comes from advocates of amnesty who interpret anything voters do -- now up to and including expressing their discontent with an unpopular war -- as a call for more immigration.

The epicenter of their case is in Arizona. Two immigration-restrictionist Republicans lost House races in a state that experiences more illegal border crossings than all the other states bordering Mexico combined. If strict-enforcement conservatives can't make it there, the argument goes, they can't make it anywhere. But Arizona wasn't really a restrictionist rout.

Arizona's Senate race was a truer test of the political merits of the issue. Republican Sen. Jon Kyl is an opponent of the "comprehensive bill" -- effectively an amnesty -- passed by the Senate last year. But he is also a thoughtful policymaker who will never be mistaken for a bomb-thrower. His Democratic opponent forthrightly supported the Senate bill and a guest-worker program. Kyl won.

It's disingenuous to argue that Arizona rejected enforcement when, as Mark Krikorian of the Center for Immigration

Rich Lowry



Studies points out, it approved ballot measures to deny bail to illegals, bar them from collecting punitive damages, keep them from receiving certain state subsidies and make English the state's official language. If Arizona had recoiled from a get-tough approach to immigration, it would have rejected these measures rather than approving them by 3-1 margins.

The fact is that the immigration issue wasn't killing off Republicans; it was discontent with the war and a general disgust with the GOP brand. The true acid test on the issue is how Democrats handled it. They ran what everyone acknowledges was a brilliant campaign. Yet, they tried to minimize differences with Republicans on immigration and mentioned it nowhere in their post-election agenda.

Finally, there is the matter of the Hispanic vote. The Republicans' share of it declined to 30 percent this year from 38 percent in the last congressional midterms in 2002. This datum -- often characterized as disastrous -- has to be put in the context of a decline in the GOP share of the white vote, from 58 percent to 51 percent. Republicans were equal-opportunity losers this year, alienating everyone from new immigrants to descendants from the Mayflower.

For all of this, it seems that President Bush and House Majority Leader-elect Nancy Pelosi might still accept the "immigration enforcement lost" interpretation of election. They both do so at their political peril.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2006 by King Features Synd., Inc.

Voter's message to public officials: "Straighten up your act" is missing in several D.C. and Austin offices

The holiday season is upon us with the same intensity created by a pre-winter blast that's hanging around town this week.

Don't know about other villagers - but this veteran observer of the good, the bad and the political, is finding the time period between September and New Year's Day seemingly measured in nano-seconds. Case in point: Christmas only 18 days away, and the brand new year, arriving a scant seven days later.

So, with the new year approaching at "mach-speed" it's time to look ahead politically - this year with "higher hopes" (despite our habitual tinge of apprehension) towards Washington and Austin - both targeted for an early January invasion by lawmaking retreats and neophytes.

The "uneasiness" is understandable since we're dealing with politicians who, especially at the congressional level, have gone through a traumatic leadership change. Promises to do better have (naturally) been made by returning lawmakers. But more to the point, voters (nationwide) have sent a strong message as to what changes they expect to see made in D.C. Thus the stage is set for a lengthy period of nervous trepidation by legislators who have "no-nonsense" home-grown watchdogs on their tails!

AUSTIN - WHERE HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

As to our Legislature that's preparing to convene in Austin, there's always the faint hope they will perform well - despite years of evidence to the contrary. With few changes in membership and the same power brokers in charge, the recommendation would be to expect continued "mediocrity," so as to not be disappointed. Therefore, we must again look to Governor "Landslide" Perry and the leadership troika - Lt. Governor and speaker (plus the omnipresent business lobby), for help with the nagging issues before the State: i.e. adequate funding for public education; honest tax reform; increased health-welfare services for the aging, the helpless and children; and a repair job on the brand new business tax that turned out worse than the one it replaced.

ETHICS DECISION: "TERRIBLE"

A majority of American voters believe that Congressional "Ethics" are "Lost in the Wilderness" and so a strong message was sent (via the mid-term vote) to those headed for Washington as veteran and fledgling lawmakers, that they will be "watched and graded" on ethical matters.

Sadly down in Austin - it'll be business as usual on the State "Ethics" front. This column has often complained that state governmental ethics are scandalous. Today, we offer yet another "proof" on that subject, found in the most recent decision by the eight member Texas Ethics Commission.

Check out this disingenuous decision: **The Commission ruled November 27 that public officials (elected or appointed) don't have to report how much money they get as "gifts" from any source - corporate or individual!**

"Outrageous," "Asinine," "Spineless" were a few of the less vitriolic comments assigned to this mindless ruling, since Texas law "clearly" requires public officials to file personal financial disclosure statements listing the "dollar value" of all gifts worth more than \$250.

Off the Record by Ken Clapp



However, the ethics-squad voted 5-3 to allow officials to simply list gifts of money received as "checks!" **"But" without having to note the actual dollar amount. How's that for a politically safe "But?"**

This travesty of ethical justice needs to be disallowed by the courts in legal proceedings hopefully brought immediately by citizen watchdog groups who monitor such foolishness, a.k.a. unlimited (and now "concealed") donations-gifts to elected officials.

CONTROL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The 80th Legislature, that begins work early in January needs (as a first order of business) to replace the current campaign contribution statutes, with a series of stringent laws that "for starters" would: (A) Limit the total dollars that can be given to any candidate during a single campaign, and (B) **place an absolute ban on corporate campaign donations and "gifts" to all State officials (elected or appointed) from the State House to the Courthouse, and all city halls in-between.**

WHAT HATH VIRGINIA WROUGHT?

History-buffs will remember the biblical quotation "What Hath God Wrought" that was used by inventor Samuel F. B. Morse, in the first American telegraphic message sent from Washington D.C. to Baltimore, on May 24, 1844.

Early last week this column came across an event at the White House that brings those biblical and historical words to mind in a slightly rephrased fashion - i.e. **"What hath Virginia wrought?"**

We're dealing here with a post-election reception, and Democrat Senator-elect Jim Webb, who just a month ago won an upset victory over incumbent GOPer George F. Allen, in the squeaky-thin (9,329 votes) Virginia Senate race.

Webb is a Republican turned Democrat and now unfortunately turned ill-mannered and boorish in behavior! This naturally worries the new Senate leadership team who, along with their House counterparts, are trying to create a new "all inclusive" atmosphere of Congressional civility.

Webb's background is ranked "first rate" including heroic service as a Marine officer; excellent military novelist; former Member of Congress; and the first Naval Academy graduate to serve in the military and later be appointed Secretary of the Navy (President Reagan - 1987).

WEBB INSULTS PRESIDENT

For a man of this stature to insult the President at a social event honoring all the newly elected members of Congress is inexcusable, regardless of political or personal feelings. Webb's obstinate refusal to shake hands or have his picture taken with Bush, and later answering the President's polite family questions with "snotty" responses, were ill-mannered and arrogant.

Senate majority leader Harry Reid needs to spend time "woodshedding" this maverick, otherwise be prepared for more loutish behavior by a Senator who knows (or should know) better.

BRIGHTER SIDE

As promised - here's another periodic smile-producing change of pace - again from political humorist Will Rogers: **"Never blame a legislative body for not doing something. When they do nothing, they don't hurt anyone. Doing things is when they become dangerous."**

That's -30-

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Traditions and SHS Alumni Your Voice

Letters to the Editor

To the Community and Salado Alumni,

Our community and our schools have undergone dramatic changes in the past few years. You have made us aware that through these changes, many of the traditions you hold dear have been diminished. With this in mind, the Salado I.S.D. Administration, is committed to reinstating and encouraging some of our school traditions while still respecting that our current students will form their own traditions for future generations.

The 7-0 board vote to enact into policy the official school motto, logo, school song, and colors ensures that these healthy traditions remain.

The administration will only endorse merchandise that has the official school mascot and will discourage other groups from the use of any other symbol or wording. Steps that have been taken in this direction include discussions with the Athletic Booster Club officers, local merchants that print SISD paraphernalia, high school faculty, and school club sponsors. The Board may still take further action, but these are the administrative actions being taken.

In addition, SISD administration hopes to work with some of the alumni in establishing an alumni link onto the existing SISD website whereby alum can acquire contact information regarding their classmates. Hopefully, other alumni traditions will come along. We are open to ideas!

We want to reiterate that what was originally intended as a student motivational tool came to signify a far greater intent. No harm was intended and we apologize to those Eagles who have been offended.

We feel that in time and with administrative support, the traditions you hold dear will continue.

Sincerely,
Robin Wuebker-Battershell, Ed.D.

Superintendent, Salado ISD

Kay Matthews
SHS Principal
Jeff Cheatham
Athletic Director

Letters to the editor can be mailed to Salado Village Voice, PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571, emailed to news@saladovillagevoice.com. Letters must be signed for publication.

FORUM

An Open Exchange of Ideas

Texas' business tax climate 6th in nation

Capitol Update

by State Representative
Dianne White Delisi



a nonpartisan organization committed to educating taxpayers about sound tax policy, puts out an annual report that ranks each state's business tax climate. The rankings are based on how well a state's tax system encourages investment, and the foundation especially focuses on states which maintain a broad tax base with a low rate. I am pleased to report that Texas' business tax climate was ranked 6th in the nation for fiscal year 2007, up one spot from our rank of 7 in fiscal year 2006.

Five components are considered in determining these rankings. The Tax Foundation looks at a state's corporate tax, individual income tax, sales tax, unemployment tax, and property tax. Texas is helped in these rankings by our absence of an income tax. We were also given positive marks for our

newly reformed business tax.

Texas' beneficial business tax climate was improved by recent special session legislation that revised the failing franchise tax. This legislation instituted what the foundation thinks is a critical component of a good business tax climate, a broad-based tax with a low rate. Under the new system, more businesses will pay the tax, but it will be at a low rate with an option for each business to exempt either their inventory or their payroll costs. There are also exemptions for businesses with less than \$300,000 in revenue to encourage small business growth.

The other side of this tax equation that I believe will help our state's economy is the aggressive reduction in local school property taxes enacted by the Texas Legislature earlier this year. High rates

of property taxation were one of the areas of taxation policy that were seen by potential employers as a negative in our state. The new school finance system cuts local school property taxes by one-third and provides a real boost to capital-intensive business like manufacturing that require large investments in land, buildings, and machinery.

While issues like tax policy may seem less exciting than others that come before the Texas Legislature, they rank among the most important topics we debate. These are policies that directly impact investment decisions by both major employers and small businesses.

To sustain a growing economy, we need to make sure Texas' taxation and spending policies are developed with careful thought regarding those who actually pay the bills. After all, taxes paid by Texans are not really "government money". These are still your dollars, which you justly expect to have spent prudently on your behalf on a limited number of government functions.

Unhappy with your medicare plan? Switch

By ROBERT GOLDBERG

While the overwhelming majority of senior citizens are happy with their prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D, some have realized that the plan they picked was not what they wanted or needed.

But seniors who fall into this category have good news: From now until Dec. 31, Medicare Part D will offer an "open-enrollment" period, meaning that recipients can change their prescription drug coverage to pick a new plan that better meets their needs.

Unhappy seniors should jump at this opportunity to switch. Many will discover that insurance providers listened to their complaints and are now offering even better plans than before. For example, several plans now cover the much talked about "doughnut hole," meaning that out-of-pocket costs have dropped significantly. Many others have lowered the co-pay for drugs. Finally, more plans have added many new medicines that were approved by the FDA as recently as last month.

All told, seniors will have more opportunity to

lower their out of pocket drug costs and tailor their drug plans to their medical needs. So even seniors who are pleased with their drug coverage should examine their options.

Whether they want to sign up for the first time or change plans, seniors shouldn't delay. This open-enrollment period happens only once per year, from Nov. 15 through Dec. 31.

This enrollment period makes Part D different from traditional one-size-fits-all government health plans, where there are no options.

Just look at the prescription drug plan offered

by the Department of Veterans Affairs, which lowers drug prices and reduces costs in three ways. First, by law, the VA can command below-market prices. Second, to reduce prices further, the VA limits the choice of drugs through a national formulary, which offers only 30 percent of the drugs available under Medicare. Finally, the VA delays and limits access to new medicines.

Every drug given "priority" status by the FDA since 1995 is available under Medicare Part D, but not on the VA formulary. For instance, there's a drug called Gleevec that is now

first-line therapy against stomach cancer, one of the world's most painful diseases. But before the VA will dispense Gleevec to veterans, they first must try an older drug known for its harsh side effects. Only if patients fail on that medication can they use Gleevec.

The VA also automatically delays access to new drugs for a year, regardless of whether affected veterans will even live that long.

That's why those who are dependent on the VA system lead shorter lives and have access to few of

SEE MEDICARE, PAGE 5A



Labor rights in China? Spare us



Jim
Hightower

At last, the national government is responding to the widening income gap and the severe economic side effects of greed-fueled globalization, by extending real power to labor unions and cracking down on sweatshop goods.

Unfortunately... this national government is not our own. It's China's. Yes, the Chinese rulers, who have a brutal record of repressing labor, have suddenly embraced a new doctrine of protecting worker rights. This is not altruism at work, but self-preservation - the ruling elites are in a sweat over massive social unrest there. So, they've proposed a new law to empower formerly toothless labor unions to negotiate on wages, safety protections, and workplace rules.

Now, guess who is howling in protest? Dell, Ford, GE, Microsoft, Nike, and other brand-name corporate giants that have been abandoning U.S. workers and communities for Chinese sweatshops. They have profited for years on the backs of China's impoverished workers, hiding behind the doctrinaire hokum that globalized sweatshops will somehow, sometime, raise the living standards of those workers.

As the surge of Chinese social unrest indicates, however, workers are no longer swallowing the hokum, and the time for pushback is now.

Expatriate U.S. corporations are lobbying ferociously to get China's government to drop its labor reforms, wailing that the new law amounts to socialism. Socialism in a communist country? Imagine! Well, say the Dells and Nikes, these rules would make it more difficult for them to fire workers. Well, duh ... yes! The corporations might ask their former American workers if that seems unfair.

What must the Chinese people think? Just as they might get a small break, here comes the U.S. of A. - represented by these greedheaded corporations - stomping on their dreams. Who elected Dell, Nike, and the rest to do this in our name?

Year-end financial tips

If you're like most people, you're probably amazed at how fast the year went by. But while you've still got a few weeks left in 2006, take the time to consider some year-end financial moves. Here are a few to think about:

Review your investment strategies. Your life can change significantly over the course of a year. You may have gotten married or remarried; you might have had a child or grandchild; you might have decided to change jobs or open your own business - the list could go on and on. And for every single one of these changes in your life, you very well might need to change your investment strategies.

Add to your retirement plan. If you have a 401(k), 403(b) or 457(b), your employer may allow you to make extra contributions before the end of the year. Since you typically make these contributions with "pre-tax" dollars, the more you contribute, the lower your taxable income may be. And of course, your money grows on a tax-deferred basis.

Sell off some of your "winners." The stock market had a pretty good year in 2006, so you may well end up

Financial Focus

by Allen Mantanona



with some large net capital gains. If that's the case, you might want to consider selling some stock to generate a loss before year-end - a move that could reduce the amount of tax you pay this year. Keep in mind, though, that if you do sell stock to generate a loss, the IRS' "wash sale" rules will prohibit you from purchasing substantially similar stock within 30 days before or after the sale that generated the loss.

Make a charitable gift. By making a gift to a charitable organization, you'll help a group whose work you support - and you'll also help yourself. You'll get an immediate tax break for your contribution, and, if you give an appreciated asset, such as stock, you'll avoid having to pay the eventual capital gains taxes when the stock is sold. Plus, you'll be removing an asset from your estate, thereby reducing the likelihood of incurring estate taxes. Before making any moves, though, check with your tax professional.

Put extra money to work. If you have a large amount of cash to invest, and it's "sit-

ting around" earning interest, you might want to shift some of the income to next year by investing in a short-term Certificate of Deposit or Treasury bill that matures in 2007.

"Grade" your investments' performance. It's a good idea to review your investment portfolio at least once a year - and the end of the year is as good a time as any. As you look over your year-end statements, ask yourself if your investments have performed as you had anticipated. While no one can predict the future, the best investors plan for, and often achieve, a certain rate of return - or at least a return that lies in a fairly narrow range - each year. How do they do it? By understanding their investments - and by choosing a mix that best reflects their individual risk tolerance and time horizon. So, if each year you find yourself "unpleasantly surprised" at your portfolio's performance, you probably need to make some changes.

By taking these steps before 2006 ends, you just might make 2007 a happy

Up and down the mountain

Buying and Selling

By Ryan Hodge

Have you ever been mountain climbing? If you plan to sell your home without representation, that kind of experience could come in handy. Extensive preparation is needed if you expect to reach your goal. You might feel like you've reached the peak when you

get an offer, but you've only made half the journey. To come back down, you have to successfully bring the transaction and post-contract activities to a close.

On the way up, you must be sure to properly disclose the condition of your home, take care of needed repairs and cosmetic considerations, appropriately price your home, and develop a marketing plan that will attract qualified buyers well suited to your offering. If you do receive an offer, there could be as many as twenty additional steps to a satisfactory conclusion.

According to a 2005 report from the National Association of REALTORS®, only 13% of home sellers sold their property without representation. Even more informative is the fact that only half of those said they would try it again.

After all, selling homes is a full-time job. The average homeowner might sell three or four homes in a lifetime, while real estate agents sell hundreds, even thousands during their careers. It makes sense to take advantage of that experience, and you can expect a much higher final sale price as a result.

Give a Present with a Future

Give a gift that keeps on giving this holiday season, a quality investment. There's something for everyone on your list - stocks, bonds, mutual funds and much more.

Happy Holidays!





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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

You're not hungry, silly, just insecure

by Donald Kaul

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, on the eve of his nomination for president in 1932, said: "I see one-third of a nation ill-fed, ill-housed and ill-clad." Ever since, American presidents have promised to end hunger. None of them has.

Not John Kennedy with his plans cut short, not Lyndon Johnson who used them to build his own Great Society, not Ronald Reagan with his "a rising tide raises all boats" philosophy, not Bill Clinton, who felt everybody's pain. Until now. George W. Bush, who didn't even promise to end hunger, has done it anyway. And in time for the holidays.

In fact, mere days before Thanksgiving, Mr. Bush's Department of Agriculture issued its annual report on food availability and, lo and behold, no one was listed as "hungry." Take that, FDR!

It seems that the USDA had done away with the "hungry" category in its 2006 report because the word is an imprecise, non-scientific term. Instead, those who can't afford to put food on the table are now said to have "very low food security." This year, that group was even bigger than last year--35 million, or 12 percent of the population. But no hunger.

Good for our side. Now if President Bush would only get to work on the ill-housed and ill-clad issues we could get on about the

business of carving a place for him on Mt. Rushmore.

But if you're surprised that 35 million Americans have very low food security and that 11 million reported going (you should pardon the expression) hungry at times, you shouldn't be.

I know that we're the greatest country in the world--just ask us--but there are certain minor areas in which we lag behind much of the industrialized world. I'm talking matters almost too trivial to mention: life expectancy, nutrition, housing, health services, education, employment.

The United Nations each year publishes a "human development" index, ranking countries according to the ability to provide their citizens a chance at a long and prosperous life.

It turns out that Norway, land of the steeply progressive income tax, is the place most likely to help you live long and well. Capitalistic America is no better than eighth, coming in behind Iceland, Australia, Ireland, Sweden, Canada and Japan. To which I can only say in rebuttal: "Our rich people are richer than your rich people and we don't make them pay taxes either. Ha, ha."

If that doesn't make the Norwegians and the rest of those socialists emerald green with envy, nothing will.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, President Bush and the Democrats have already started

making good on the promise to be bi-partisan.

Mr. Bush's fired off the first gesture by nominating a man who does not believe in the United Nations (John Bolton) to be our U.N. ambassador and a man who doesn't believe in contraception (Eric Keroack) to oversee federally funded planned parenthood programs. The appointments are in keeping with Bush's philosophy of putting incompetents (former FEMA head Michael Brown) and outright saboteurs (former Secretary of Energy and auto industry shill Spencer Abraham) at the controls of government to demonstrate that government doesn't work.

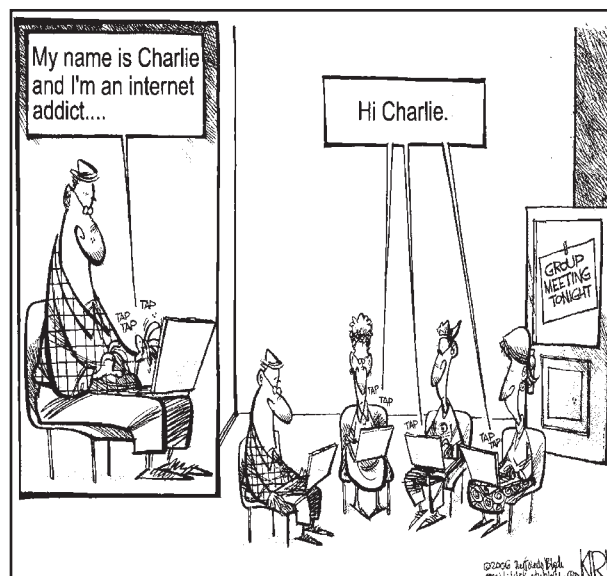
The Democrats--who like government and think we should have more of it--haven't contrived their bi-partisan answer yet; they've been too busy fighting among themselves. Nancy Pelosi's first move on becoming the presumptive Speaker of the House was to try to

strong-arm Abscam scandal-tainted John Murtha of Pennsylvania, into the No. 2 House position.

Rep. Stenny Hoyer of Maryland, however, had his own ambitions for the job. In addition, he had the votes so he won, thus making Ms. Pelosi not merely the first woman ever to lead the House, but the first to enter office carrying her head underneath her arm. But never fear. She's hoping to salvage her reputation for leadership by naming Rep. Alcee Hastings of Florida chairman of the House Intelligence Committee.

Hastings, you might remember, was the federal judge impeached on a bribery charge. Tell me again why we voted the Democrats into office. I keep forgetting.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email: dkaul1@verizon.net



Medicare: Not satisfied? Switch

FROM PAGE 3A

the newest drugs.

The Medicare drug benefit takes the opposite approach. Rather than offering seniors a single price-controlled government plan, it leverages market forces to create competition, which leads to lower prices, better service and more choices. In fact, both Medicare and the Congress-

sional Budget Office found that private competition offers the same savings as a government-run system with more choice and less bureaucracy.

Under Part D, private companies compete for the business of seniors. That's why three out of four seniors enrolled in the Medicare drug program are satisfied, and nearly three-fourths expect their

drug costs to stay the same or decrease thanks to the plan. More than four in five seniors say they've had no problems getting their drugs. And because of the program, 20 million seniors who had no previous drug coverage are now insured.

In the coming weeks, seniors should take advantage of the open enrollment period and sign up,

or switch to a new plan that better meets their needs. And they should pay attention to any effort Congress makes to take those choices away. Choice is what the new Medicare program -- and better health -- is all about.

Robert Goldberg is Vice President of The Center for Medicine in the Public Interest.

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**Quilts on Display
for Christmas Stroll**

A Sewing Basket in Salado is hosting a local quilt show for the Christmas Stroll, ending Dec. 10. Everyone is invited to enjoy looking at a variety of quilts made by local quilters. Several quilters are available at the store if you would like to meet the person who made the quilt, and you may also take pictures of the quilts. There are also quilts available for sale. A Sewing Basket is located in the Stageshop Shopping Center at 560 N. Main St. The show hours are from 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. thru Dec. 11 and 12 - 5 p.m. Dec. 12. If you have any questions, please call 947-5423.

**MCCA Christmas party
Dec. 12 caps good year**

The Mill Creek Community Association's Annual Christmas Party will be Dec. 12 at the Longhorn Room at Stagecoach Inn. Social Time will begin at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner served at 6:45 p.m. Entertainment will follow. This is an occasion for festive attire and fellowship with the Mill Creek residents. The cost will be \$20.00 per person for members and \$25.00 for non-members. The membership fee is \$20.00 per household.

Salado, TX 76571. It is important to respond as early as possible so that the Social Committee can plan for the dinner. Membership dues for all members are due for the 2007 year by Jan. 1, 2007. This is important for the completion of the directory. So please don't forget... with our dues we can support our neighborhood and contribute to our community and you can get your name in the directory and hopefully become part of the committees needed to keep yhe sub-division one of the best anywhere. Everyone is needed.

Your check will be your reservation and mailed to Mill Creek Community Association, P.O. Box 562,


**Bell Democrat women
to install officers
at Stagecoach Dec. 9**

The Bell County-Texas Democratic Women will hold a Christmas Luncheon and Officer Installation on Dec. 9 at the Stagecoach Inn- Garden Room. The luncheon begins at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. Guest speaker is Democratic National Committee Member Betty Richie. Richie is also past Presi-

dent of Texas Democratic Women and wife of Boyd Richie, Chairman of the Texas Democratic Party. Silent auction proceeds benefit the Vada Sutton Scholarship Fund. BCT-DW members and Democratic guests are welcome. Please mail reservations to "Treasurer" 901 Hartrick Canyon Drive Temple, TX 76502 or call 982-4284.

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UMHB will present Showcase of Characters

Performance Studies students in the Department of Communication and Media Studies in the College of Humanities at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor will present a Showcase of Character Cameos at 1 p.m. Dec. 8 in Brindley Auditorium, York Science Hall.

This hour-and-a-half production of autobiographies is comprised of character cameos, which are each about five minutes long. Producer, Dr. Diane Howard, professor of performance studies at UMHB, will present the research, which is the basis of this work. The production is open and free to the public.

Daniel Hendricks will depict Adolf Hitler in Beginning of the End. Becki Knotts and Jonathan McCauley will perform Rampage to Ruin about Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrows. Amy Martin will present Nothing Less Than Free about Rosa Parks. Chris Wilson will perform Against the Odds: Lincoln. Chris Sawey delivers the story of Johnny Cash in Man in Black. Jennifer Goff will depict Marilyn Monroe in Rise of a Falling Star. Derek Dobbins will present Some Things Never Change, the story

of Spike Lee. Tanner McFather will tell the story of James Braddock ("Cinderella Man") in Tragedy to Triumph. Cynthia Umstadd will perform Norma McCorvey (Roe Vs Wade) in Mystery of Life. Rebekah Remlinger will present Shirley Temple in Coming of Age.

The performers have studied their historical characters from primary sources (journals, diaries, letters, and other artifacts). They have written and produced their performances. Each cameo is unique in presentation elements that incorporate dramatic simulations and/or multi-media effects. These autobiographical cameos reveal the inner lives and personal histories of the characters. The cameos show how the characters have allowed circumstances in their lives to affect them positively or negatively. The stories depict the consequences of the choices of the characters. As the students' schedules allow, these performances are available in short cameo or expanded forms for educational and civic organizations.

Dr. Howard wrote a textbook that outlines the process that the students

SEE UMHB, PAGE 12A

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SPORTS

Lady Eagles struggling with 8 losses

After a 2-0 start, the Lady Eagle basketballers have hit a rough stretch, dropping their last eight matches including four consecutive at the recent Lorena Tournament.

Salado opened the tournament against Bosqueville, a team which entered the game with a 5-1 record, and fell by a final of 37-24.

The Lady Eagles trailed 13-10 following a low-scoring first half, but in the second half Bosqueville pulled away for the double-digit win. Bosqueville totaled as many points in the fourth period - 14 - as Salado did in the entire second half.

Only one Lady Eagle hit double figures in points, that being Kristen Smith, who finished the game with 10. Kelsey Gobin contributed eight points, while Kaylan Hearne had six. Those three were the only Salado players to reg-

ister points. Conversely, Bosqueville had seven players score at least two points.

The Lady Eagles then moved on to face Marlin in the tournament's second round. For the second straight game, Salado held its own in the first half, trailing by only point, 18-17, at the break. In the third, however, the Lady Eagles had a meltdown, surrendering 19 points while scoring just four, resulting in an insurmountable 37-21 deficit entering the final frame. Although Salado outscored Marlin 13-9 in the fourth, the final outcome was already decided as Salado fell by a final of 46-34.

Gobin led all Lady Eagles with a 10-point effort. Hazzard had eight, Smith had seven, Hearne six and Cortney Dunnahoo scored three.

In Salado's third game of the tourney, the girls faced

the host Lorena squad, a team which had suffered just one defeat entering the game. Lorena would avoid its second defeat of the season in handing the Lady Eagles a 42-30 loss. Salado, which struggled to generate offense, fell behind early, but was still very much in the game until the fourth, when Lorena outscored Salado 19-9.

Hazzard's 10 points paced Salado, while Smith and Gobin both registered eight. Hearne and Tamra Stanish each scored two.

The Lady Eagles suffered their most lopsided loss of the tournament in the final game, which had them matching up against Crawford. The final score in this one was 55-31, and the game was again broken wide open in the second half, as Crawford turned a seven-point halftime advantage into a 43-21 lead entering the fourth.

No Salado player reached double figures in the game, though Hearne led Salado with eight points. Gobin had seven, while Hazzard and Dunnahoo each contributed six points. Smith and Stanish both closed out the game with two points.

Prior to the Lorena Tournament, on Nov. 28, Salado traveled to Bosqueville and were done in by a poor second half in a 49-37 loss. A fine offensive night from Gobin was wasted in the loss, as the senior pumped in 16 points. Hazzard scored six, Hearne had six and Dunnahoo scored five. Smith and Brittani Gilchrest each had two.

Salado will look to get back on the winning track in the upcoming Coach Smith Tournament. The Lady Eagles open play Dec. 7. The schedule is found on page 9A this edition and at the gyms.

Eagles nearly take Lorena Tourney title

The Varsity Eagle cagers came within a single point of taking home the title of the Lorena Tournament held last week. Playing without the injured Ryan Clark - the team's leading scorer from a year ago - the Eagles dispatched Vanguard and the Lorena JV before a second half comeback against the host Leopards fell just short, 54-53.

The Eagles opened play versus Vanguard, and jumped out to a 16-6 lead after one. Chad Tumey and Noah Harbison accounted for all of Salado's points in the opening frame.

In the second, Salado maintained its stout defense and increased its lead to 24-12 at the break. Though Salado would manage just five points in a low scoring third, the Eagles still boasted a healthy 31-16 advantage with one period remaining. A strong dose of free throws, including six from the hand of Tanner Myers, helped seal the 43-21 win.

Harbison's 13 points topped all scorers, and close on his heels was Tumey, who finished out the game with a dozen points. Myers scored all eight of his points in the fourth, while Nick Seawood chipped in with seven and David Rosenau had one.

The Eagles' second tourney win was even more convincing than the first, as Salado routed an over-matched Lorena JV squad by the lopsided final of 71-20. Salado dropped 28 on Lorena in the first period alone, including converting 9-10 free throws in the first. That set the stage for the blowout, with Salado expanding its lead all the way to the 51-point final margin.

Harbison once again paced the Salado offense, this time leading all scorers with 16. Salado had all 11 of its players in uniform contribute points, with Blake Newman and Rosenau both contributing 10. Justin Pruitt had 12 on the game, and Tumey had six. Justin Konzen scored five points in the win.

The victory set the stage for a showdown with the host Varsity Leopards. The two teams came out firing, especially Harbison, whose hot hand accounted for 14 of Salado's 19 first period points, including a trio of three pointers. Despite that, the Eagles still trailed, 21-19, entering the

second. In that frame, Salado's offense cooled while Lorena's stayed pretty warm, leading to a 32-24 Leopard lead at the half.

In the third, Salado's defense came alive, holding Lorena to seven points while the offense chipped three points off the Leopard lead entering the fourth.

The final period fashioned itself into a battle from the free throw line, with Salado drawing eight attempts to Lorena's nine. Harbison scored seven of his game-high 24 in the fourth, but converted on just one of four opportunities from the charity stripe, as the Leopards held on for the 54-53 win.

Behind Harbison's 24 was Myers, who had 11. Newman had four, Rosenau three and Pruitt and Seawood each had two.

With the strong tournament showing Salado pushed its season record to 4-2.

Junior High
Salado 8th A - 35
Troy 8th A - 31

Taylor Ruddick scored 13 points and Braxton Tucker added eight as the A team edged Troy by four. Salado outscored the Trojans 12-7 in the fourth to seal the win. Hunter Ward had four points, Clint Scarborough had three and Paul Warren had three. Jacob Heiner chipped in two.

Salado Seventh A - 35
Troy Seventh A - 13

All 10 members of the A team contributed points in Salado's 23-point rout of Troy. The boys were led by Koby Spears, Jada Kornegay and Colton Meiman, who all had six points. Kyle Bradley and Johnny Jordan contributed four points apiece.

Salado Eighth B - 12
Troy Eighth B - 10

Jacob Brank scored six points in a game which saw both teams go scoreless during the second and third quarters. The Eagles outscored the Trojans six to four in the fourth to take the victory. Garrett Marburger, Colby Shiller and Colton Norman all had two points.

Salado Seventh B - 8
Troy Eighth B - 2

The seventh grade B team came one first period bucket away from a shut-out as an eight point fourth by the Eagles secured a win. Austin Armstrong, Joe Owens, Michael Sellers and George Romfh all scored two points apiece.



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Coach Smith Invitational Basketball Tournament Dec. 7-9 at Salado schools

Date	Time	Smith Gym	SIS Gym
12/07	5 p.m.	Salado v. McGregor (g)	Salado v. Belton JV (#1)
12/07	6:30 p.m.	Brock v. Nazareth (g)	Gunter v. Georgetown (#2)
12/07	8 p.m.	Mason v. Brock (#3)	
12/08	3 p.m.	Salado v. Nazareth (g)	Liberty Hill v. Tivy JV (#4)
12/08	4:30 p.m.	Winner #1 v. Winner #2	Loser #1 v. Loser #2
12/08	6 p.m.	McGregor v. Brock (g)	Loser #3 v. Loser #4
12/08	7:30 p.m.	Winner #3 v. Winner #4	
12/09	9 s.m.	Loser #1 v. Loser #3	
12/09	10:30 a.m.	Winner #2 v. Winner #4	Loser #2 v. Loser #4
12/09	12 noon	Nazareth v. McGregor (g)	Winner #1 v. Winner #3
12/09	1:30 p.m.	Salado v. Brock (g)	
12/09	3 p.m.	Winner #2 v. Winner #3	Loser #2 v. Loser #3
12/09	4:30 p.m.	Winner #1 v. Winner #4	Loser #1 v. Loser #4



Members of the Salado Eagles 7-9 year old division, Central Texas Youth Football League competed in the North / South All Star Game last weekend. Players left to right: Nikolas Lowrance, Dylan Bradley, Ryan Shilling, Derek Wales. Parents back row left to right: Head coach - Duane Lowrance, Todd Bradley, Assistant Coach - Barry Shilling and Scott Wales.

Coach Smith Tournament tips off here Dec. 7-9

Salado Athletic Booster Club would like to extend an open invitation for all to come to the annual Coach Smith Memorial Basketball Tournament.

The tournament will be held at Coach Smith Gymnasium Dec. 7-9.

"We expect some great basketball action from some of the best 1A, 2A and 3A teams around," said Andy Wright, president of the local Booster Club.

Visiting teams this year will be Brock, Mason, Liberty Hill, Tivy, Nazareth, Gunter, Belton, Georgetown, McGregor, all of which are hosted by the Salado Eagles and Salado Lady Eagles.

Both the high school gymnasium and middle school gymnasium will be used to handle all of the games scheduled for the weekend.

Schedules for play, list-

ing teams and times are above and will be posted outside of each gym.

"Come join us in supporting our Eagles," Wright said, "and enjoy some exciting basketball, great food and good old-fashioned fun."

"We would like to thank our sponsors and volunteers in advance," he added, "for what we expect to be another great tournament. Hope to see you there!"



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In what has become a Central Texas Christmas tradition, the Newcomb School of Ballet and the Azalee Marshall Cultural Activities Center will again partner to present the "The Nutcracker." This year's Nutcracker has a fun twist. Ballet Renee is pleased to present the Texas Nutcracker. This enchanting Christmas tale of young Clara (played by Hilary Sames), her nutcracker and an amazing dream will be performed at 2 p.m. Dec. 10.

"The Nutcracker" features over 50 dancers from all over Bell and Coryell Counties. The 2006 Texas Nutcracker Cast is comprised of the following:

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lor, Lily Feaster, Lofton, Madison McGuire, Mandy Jameson, Mandy Lawrence, Mara Stonebrook, Marikit Knight, Marissa, Marlene Poehlman, Michaela Inema, Minouche Perry, Mykia Hollis, Paola Nunez, Rachel Berman, Rebecca Richards, Sara Baker, Sarah Franklin, Sarah Ward, Sexana Ellis, Stephanie Holmes, Sydney Bergeron, Tania Taylor, Tim Kidder and Victoria Thornton.

The Newcomb School of Ballet offers classical ballet lessons for all levels beginning to professional and has been training dancers for over 40 years. Dancers in Ballet Renee, the official company of the Newcomb School of

Ballet, have been accepted into many prestigious ballet programs including summer workshop programs at the Kirov Academy, Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theater and the School of American Ballet.

Their annual performances of The Nutcracker in Temple and Killeen are the most professional performances between Austin and Dallas and have become a holiday tradition for many Central Texas families.

Tickets for "The Nutcracker" on Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the door the day of the performance or by visiting or calling the Cultural Activities Center Box Office.

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Issue	Deadline Noon
Dec. 7	Dec. 1
Dec. 14	Dec. 8
Dec. 21	Dec. 15
Dec. 28	Dec. 21
Jan. 4	Dec. 28

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ISSUE	Deadline Noon
DEC. 7	DEC. 4
DEC. 14	DEC. 11
DEC. 21	DEC. 18
DEC. 28	DEC. 21
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Stamp Salado owner Sandra Shaw received a hearty welcome from the Salado Chamber of Commerce representatives and ambassadors on Nov. 17. Stamp Salado specializes in rubber stamps, scrapbooking and all the accoutrements to make a keepsake. Stamp Salado is located at 642 N. Main St. #1 For more information about Stamp Salado call 254-947-8848

PHOTO BY DEBBIE CHARBONEAU



Trimmings Factory Store ribbon cutting was held Nov. 29. Jackie Wright is greeted by Ambassadors and Salado Chamber of Commerce president George Dentry. Trimmings is located at 1301 N. Stagecoach Road northbound I35 access road, one block north of Main St. in the historic Fowler House. The store features seasonal home decor, candles and gift items. For more information call Jackie at 254-947-9475.

PHOTO BY MARILYN FLEISCHER

Sweet Adelines gift wrap at Temple Mall

Temple Mall joins hands with Chisholm Trail Chorus of Sweet Adelines International to host their annual gift wrapping store located near Dillard's court. Sweet Adelines will be at Temple Mall December 8 through Christmas Eve wrapping gifts for shoppers and raising money for their local non-profit woman's chorus group.

Chisholm Trail Chorus is Temple's premiere show chorus for women. This local chapter of Sweet Adelines International was founded in 1982 and has entertained audiences throughout Central Texas. The 30-plus members of the group come from Temple, Belton, Troy, Waco, China Springs, Copperas Cove, Killeen, Harker Heights, Rogers, Little River, Lometa, Lott and Georgetown.

UMHB FROM PAGE 7A

use to research, write, produce, and perform these autobiographies.

The text is *Autobiographical Writing and Performing: An Introductory, Contemporary Guide to Research in Speech Performance* published by McGraw-Hill.

This book is based on Dr. Howard's studies related to the correlation of observation of role models and locus of control.

Professor Howard's research has demonstrated that as audience members identify with characters that have internal locus of control in autobiographical performances, the observers are stimulated to process their own identities in more positive directions that are marked by internal locus of control.

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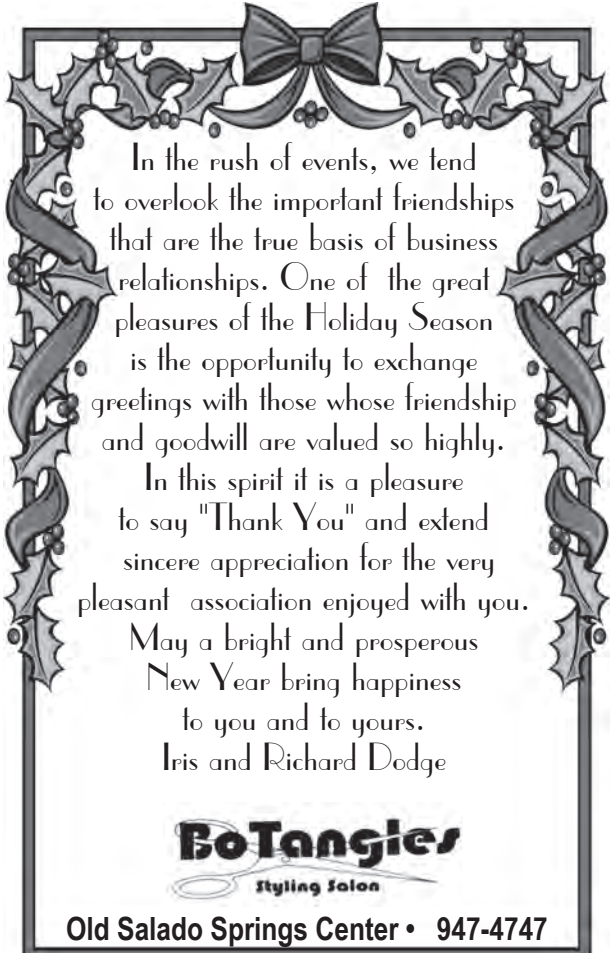
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Merry Christmas
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 2006 Christmas Parade



In the rush of events, we tend to overlook the important friendships that are the true basis of business relationships. One of the great pleasures of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to exchange greetings with those whose friendship and goodwill are valued so highly. In this spirit it is a pleasure to say "Thank You" and extend sincere appreciation for the very pleasant association enjoyed with you. May a bright and prosperous New Year bring happiness to you and to yours.
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Worship Schedule
 Sunday School • 9:45 a.m. • Worship • 11 a.m.
 Worship/Bible Study and Praise Kids Music • 6 p.m.
 Wednesday
 Pot Luck Meal 6:45 pm
 Praise & Prayer • Missions for children • Satisfy for youth 7:15 p.m.

First Baptist Church • Main St. at the Creek

SUNDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Contemporary Worship/Bible Study	9:00a.m.	Fellowship Meal	5:30 p.m.
Traditional Worship/Bible Study	10:30 a.m.	Celebrate Recovery	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.	Youth Choir	6:00 p.m.
Jr. High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Team Kid (Age 3 - 6th grade)	6:15 p.m.
Sr High Huddles	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting	6:15 p.m.
		Youth Half-Time	7:30 p.m.


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... I heard the voice of the Lord, saying Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.


from Isaiah 6:8



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 -- Psalm 46:1-2

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 Evening Worship • 6 p.m.
Wednesday
 Bible Classes • 6:30 p.m.

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Dr. R. Wayne Matthews and Dr. Sandra K. Oliver, of Belton, have announced the engagement of their son, Captain Joseph Leneer Oliver Matthews to Heather Lee Kirchdorfer, of Finchville, KY. The bride-elect is the daughter of Scott and Janis Kirchdorfer, of Morehead, KY. The groom-elect is a Captain in the United States Marine Corps, and is the grandson of Ret. Col. Jack Oliver and Miriam Oliver, of Belton. The bride-elect is an eighth grade English teacher. The couple plans a Dec. 29 wedding in Finchville, KY.



Ready for Christmas
 Chine Ray and Bill Pinkston with helpers, Brady Carlson and Luke Arner participate in the "Hanging of the Greens" at the Presbyterian Church of Salado. To observe the beginning of the Advent Season, traditional Advent scriptures were read and the Advent Candle was lighted during the worship service. Afterwards, the members decorated the church and enjoyed fellowship with a chilli cook-off for lunch.

St. Stephen Catholic Church
 Religious Education Classes
 Pre-K thru 12th
 6:30 - 7:40 p.m.
 Wednesday
Mass
 Saturday • 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday
 (Spanish) 9:30 a.m.
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St. Joseph's Chapel hosts Advent Concert
 St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel, 945 N. Main St., will host a free Advent Concert 7 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Chapel. The members invite the public to attend this concert. The chorale musical program will be directed by Roy Finney, Choir Director at Temple College.

Estate Sale benefits Celebrate Recovery
 An Estate Sale will take place 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 8 to benefit Celebrate Recovery. It will be held at the Youth House on the back lot of First Baptist Church, Salado. fabric, art supplies, sheets, towels, comforters, exercise equipment and much, much more. There are over 100,000 items which will be available this Saturday only from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. An entire storage unit was donated to Celebrate Recovery. It includes antiques, dishware, ladies clothing, Christmas decorations, office supplies, The Celebrate Recovery ministry - a Christian 12 Step program - meets at First Baptist Wednesdays, 6 - 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!

St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel
 945 N. Main St.
 invites you to a free Advent Concert at the Chapel at 7 p.m. Saturday December 9. The chorale musical program will be under the direction of Roy Finney, Choir Director at Temple College.




Presbyterian Church of Salado
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Historical marker to be dedicated recognizing Addie Barton Dec. 10

A new Texas Historical Marker will be dedicated in Salado at a Dec. 10 ceremony at Salado's First Baptist Church on Main Street. The ceremony will begin at noon.

The marker will recognize Louisa Adeline (Addie) Barton, Pioneer Missionary to Mexico. Addie Barton, born in 1858, was the fourth child of Dr. Welborn and Louisa Barton. Upon her graduation from Salado College at the age of 17, Addie became a teacher at Holland, Texas. In 1883, she felt called to become a missionary and went to Saltillo, Mexico the next year. Addie's home church, then called Salado Baptist Church of Christ, commissioned her. Addie taught school at five different locations but most of her work was at Saltillo's Madero Institute, a boarding school for young girls. Due to the unstable conditions of the Mexican Revolution, she returned to Salado in 1910. Even though Addie was at home on enforced furlough, she was still considered a missionary to Mexico. While at home, she worked with Mexican refugees until her death in 1921.

The new marker will be placed next the church's 1879 historic bell. The dedication service with Randy Carder, Associate Pastor for Music and Missions, serving as Master of Ceremonies, will begin with the tolling of the 1879

Armstrong Community invites you to celebrate

Armstrong Community invites all friends and neighbors to gather and celebrate the season together on 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11 for their annual Holiday Dinner and Celebration.

All community members and friends are invited to attend and are asked to bring a dessert or side dish.

Food, fellowship and fun will be on the agenda for the evening. There will be a short program for entertainment, and music and carols to celebrate Christmas. Feel welcome to come and join us this year.

The Armstrong Community Improvement Association works to promote good will in the community and is currently continuing to remodel the historic school house.

The Armstrong Community Center is available for reunions and family gatherings for a small fee. If interested, call E.R. King Jr. at 939-6012.

bell by Joyce Vannatta, Chairperson of the Missions Committee, followed by a welcome and invocation by Pastor Brian Dunks. Greetings will be offered by David Evans, former Bell County Marker Chairman, and Robert Denman, Salado Historical Society President, and Stephanie Turnham, Director of the Bell County Museum. Following the greetings, Charlene Carson, Church Historian, will give a tribute to Addie Barton. The marker will be unveiled by Janet Schimank, Minister of Children. Barton family member, Sally Verrando, will give a response which

will be followed with a benediction by Pastor Dunks. Since Addie was seven years old when her family moved to Salado, seven year old children of the church will assist with the tolling of the bell and unveiling the marker.

After the ceremony, the congregation will enjoy a fajita lunch with all the trimmings prepared by the Dallas-based Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief Feeding Team.

Normally, this team takes food into disaster areas, but on this day, Dec. 10, they will be in Salado to help the church celebrate the marker dedication and



Louisa Adeline Barton

their annual recognition of missionaries and mission work worldwide.



We want to thank two local business for their sincere contributions to our family during our loved one's battle with cancer.

Stan & Leigh Drake of Village Pharmacy & Floral Creations went out of their way to open the pharmacy after hours.

Leeza Floyd of Scissors who opened her shop during the Thanksgiving Holidays to cut the entire family's hair at NO CHARGE! These businesses have gone beyond our expectations and for that we send our sincere thanks.

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Salado School Menus
December 11 - 15

Lunch Thomas Arnold Elementary

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Tues: Fish Shapes (Hoagie, Chef Salad), Hushpuppies, Broccoli W/Cheese, Sugar Cookies, Milk

Wed: Pizza-pepporoni (Hoagie, Yogurt & Fruit Plate), Corn, Breadstick, Peaches, Milk

Mac & Cheese (Hoagie, Chef Salad), Peas, Fresh Fruit, Roll, Sugar Cookie, Milk

Fri: Cheeseburger (Peanut Butter & Jelly, Chef Salad), Burger Salad, Fries, Fruity Freeze, Milk.

Lunch Salado Intermediate & High Schools

Every Day: Pizza Hut Pepperoni Pizza, Chef Salad, Fresh Fruit, Choice of Milk, Tea

Mon: Burrito, Corn Dogs, Tots, Baked Potatoes, Toast, Spanish Rice, Pears, Green Beans, Salad

Tues: Beef Stew, Hamburger, Corn, Peas & Carrots, Cornbread, Mixed Fruit, Frito Lay

Wed: Pizza, Chicken Sandwich, Red Potatoes, Baked Potato, Salad, Corn, Peaches, Breadstick

Ckn Fajitas, Baked Potato, Fries, Carrots, Mixed Fruit

Fri: Hamburger, Chopped BBQ Sandwich, Pinto Beans, Apple, Salad, Fries, Fruity Freeze

Breakfast Menu Both Campuses

Every day: Assorted Dry Cereals, White Toast, Fresh Fruit, Milk, Coffee, Juice

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Thurs: Breakfast Bagel Sausage
Fri: Eggs & Sausage

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The Norwood Homes on N. Main St. has been the location of many family reunions and gatherings throughout the years. It will receive a Salado Historical Society marker at 2 p.m. Dec. 9. The public is invited to the ceremony.

Norwood home to be honored by Salado Historical Society

Friends and family who have enjoyed the reunions, Christmas Strolls and Saturday night musicals held at the J. H. Norwood home throughout the last 70 years are invited to come to the dedication of a Salado Historical marker and open house.

The Salado Historical Society will be making the official presentation at the home, located at 231 N.

Main Street, 2 p.m. Dec. 9. The open house will immediately follow the ceremony.

Oldest records indicate the Spanish Land Grant was owned by Clara D. and C. B. Baird until it was conveyed to J. W. Walkup.

On March 28, 1901, J. W. Walkup sold the land to Mrs. M. J. Wheaton, who built the original home. The property and the home were sold to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Norwood on December 1, 1910. The Norwoods lived in the home until their passing in 1966.

J.H. Norwood built the Norwood Grocery and General Merchandise store in Salado in the early 1920s. He operated the store until the mid-Depression years and then began working for Cochran. Blair and Potts in Belton until 1955. The General Merchandise store is still much the way it was originally and currently houses retail shops just across from the Stagecoach Inn, just north of the Central Texas Area Museum on Main St.

The Norwood family lived in the home at 231 N. Main St. continually from

1910 to 1966. Beginning with only two rooms built on pier (cedar stumps and rocks) and beam foundation. Pearl Norwood has a reputation for deciding walls needed to be moved or added as children arrived through the year. The living room and dining room and an indoor bathroom were added, porches were enclosed and a south side fireplace was taken out and replaced with windows. The "box" house now has eight rooms.

Children of Pearl and J. H. Norwood were Hal Norwood, Freda (Doodle) Norwood, Fern Raley, Bobby Norwood and twins Margaret Purgahn and Mildred Brown.

Several family members are planning to welcome guests, including Mildred Norwood Brown and family.

Ladies Auxiliary to honor past Presidents with coffee

The Board of Directors of the Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary will host the group's Presidents' Coffee 10 a.m. Dec. 14 at the Salado Civic Center.

Those being honored at the coffee are original members of the auxiliary since 1978. The ladies are being honored for what they started and still continue to work with today; an example, Christmas in October.

The newly elected officers will be recognized and include Jo Glass, president; SaraBeth Caruth, secretary; LaNora Miller, treasurer; and Trish Stebbins, Chamber of Commerce Liaison. Newly appointed committee chairs will be introduced at the coffee.

Past presidents are invited to attend and guests are welcome.

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Salado Village Guide

Shopping Map
Pages 6-7B

Section B Salado Village Voice December 07, 2006 Pages Shopping, Dining, Overnight, Events

Martin named Artist of the Month

The Salado Village Artists have named Deborah Martin as the newest Artist of the Month.

Martin retired to Bell County in 2002 after a long career first as a research chemist, publishing in the *Journal of Inorganic & Nuclear Chemistry* in the 1970s. Deciding to become a nurse to work more closely with people, she enjoyed a 20 year career as

a U.S. Army Nurse Anesthetist, retiring from the Army in 1995 with a rank of Lieutenant Colonel. She then practiced civilian nurse anesthesia until moving an empty nest with her husband of 27 years to Bell County.

"It took me awhile to get my bearings," she said. "But have found this area and its people to be warm and welcoming. Texas is



Deborah Martin with the 2006 Christmas Stroll poster.

a great place to live." A lifelong love of gardening led her to become a Master Gardener in 2003, after which she earned specialist designations allowing her to teach propagation and plant physiology, the treatment of oak wilt, and rain-water harvesting – subjects that satisfy her ecological interests.

Martin joined the Salado Village Artists in 2004, and during the last two years has rekindled a love of art that has lain dormant since college. "I did pencil and pen and ink drawings to relax in college, but a more than 30 year hiatus required that I relearn old skills and develop new ones," Martin explained. "I took the

first of many workshops and classes here with the Salado Village Artists in 2004, and have since traveled to workshops around the U.S. I was just hooked right away, and find I am happiest lately when I can paint a little every day."

Martin won a ribbon at the 2005 Barclay juried art show, and has several paintings on display at the Cultural Activities Center in Temple until Dec. 14. Her art adorns the poster seen around town for the Christmas Stroll. Her paintings as Artist of the Month may be viewed until the end of January. She is also currently showing at the SVA building during the Christmas stroll, Dec. 8-10.

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Have a Salado event to list on this calendar?
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What's happening

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Salado Christmas Stroll Schedule

Friday, December 8

- 4:30 PM *Silver Spur Performers --Strolling
- 5:00 PM *Jubilee - Immanuel Baptist @ Courtyard at Salado Square
- *Shoemaker High School -- Strolling
- 5:30 PM *Performers from 'The Christmas Carol'
- 6:15 PM *Treble Choir, Belton High @ Gazebo
- 7:00 PM *Heartsong - UMHB Conservatory - Griffith Fine Art Gallery
- *Freddie Fuller - The Singing Cowboy @ Rock Creek
- *Salado Community Chorus - Concert @ Civic Center
- Evening *Live Nativity Scene @ Salado First Baptist Church

Saturday, December 9

- 1:00 PM *Chamber Singers - Ellison High - Strolling
- 2:00 PM *Georgetown Home School Musicians @ Accents of Salado
- 3:30 PM *Joe Pehoski - Storyteller @ Inn at Salado
- 4:00 PM *Mark Brodeur - Book Signing @ Fletcher's
- 5:00 PM *Madrigal Choir" Belton HS -- Strolling
- "Harmony" Belton High - Strolling
- "Legacy" Central TX Christian School Choir- Strolling
- 5:30 PM *Performers from 'The Christmas Carol'
- 7:00 PM *Jubilee - Immanuel Baptist @ Griffith Fine Art Gallery
- *Freddie Fuller - The Singing Cowboy @ Rock Creek
- * Sealed & Armored - Georgetown @ Bent on's
- *Advent Concert @ Episcopal Chapel behind Fletcher's
- *Branded" Christian Country Duo @ Salado First Baptist
- Evening *Live Nativity Scene @ Salado First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 10

- 1:00 PM *Alayna Fuller Ramsden - Story Time @ Gazebo
- *Bells & Ivory - Aline Wilson & David Kaulfus @ Courtyard at Salado Square
- 2:00 PM *Denise Thomssen - Flute Duets @ Alice's

Watch for Santa @ Gazebo & Around the Village Elf Workshop (Gift wrap, drinks, & food) @ 230 North Main

DECEMBER 7-9

2006 Coach Smith Memorial Basketball Tournament, featuring some of the finest high school basketball teams in the state.

DECEMBER 8-10

Annual Salado Christmas Stroll event. Shops open late, entertainment and music throughout the village. Free parking.

DECEMBER 8

Salado Community Chorus 12th Annual Christmas Concert, 7 p.m. at the Salado Civic Center. Performance will feature a blend of upbeat contemporary music with traditional Christmas pieces. Concert is free and open to the public. Complimentary refreshments will be served.

DECEMBER 8-10

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Christmas is on the Air," a special holiday show in the spirit of old-time radio. Enjoy this "live broadcast" on WSPR, brought to you by Doohickey's Department Store. With Penny and Grainger at the mic and sound effects table,

anything can happen. Plenty of live music and holiday hoots. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8 and 2 and 9 p.m. Dec. 9 and 10. Info: 947-3456 or www.saladosilver-spur.com.

DECEMBER 9

Salado Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, 7:3-10:30 a.m. at the Salado Church of Christ Activity Center. All you can eat pancakes and sausage.

Adults: \$5, children 12 and under: \$3.

DECEMBER 9

Salado Historical Society historical marker dedication, for the J.H. Norwood home, located at 231 North Main Street. An open house will immediately follow the ceremony. Public is invited.

DECEMBER 9

Fletcher's Books and Antiques hosts a book signing with Texas author and poet Mark Brodeur, 4-9 p.m. Public is invited. Info: 947-5414.

DECEMBER 9

Prellop Fine Art Gallery hosts a special showing with artist Charles Allen's

botanical sculptures, 6-9 p.m. Free and open to the public.

DECEMBER 9

St. Joseph's Episcopal Chapel hosts a free Advent Concert, 7 p.m. at the chapel, located behind Fletcher's Books and Antiques. The chorale musical program will be under the direction of Roy Finney, Choir Director at Temple College. Fee and open to the public.

DECEMBER 10

Historical Marker dedication recognizing Louisa Adeline (Addie) Barton (b. 1858), noon at the First Baptist Church of Salado. Barton spent many years as a missionary in Mexico. The marker will be placed next to the church's historic bell, from 1879. A fajita lunch will follow the ceremony. Public is invited to attend.

DECEMBER 12

Mill Creek Community Association meeting and Christmas Dinner in the Longhorn Room of the Stagecoach Inn. 6 p.m. social, 6:45 p.m. dinner entertainment. Festive attire is encouraged. Tickets: \$20 per person for members and their guests; \$25 for non-members.

fletcher's
Books & Antiques

Saturday, December 9
invites you to
a book signing of
the new release
by Texas Poet
& Author
Mark Brodeur

from 4 to 9 p.m.
at the store
945 N. Main St.
for information, call
254/947/5414

The General Store Collection

The Salado Sawmill, an artisan's workshop and gallery, carries a unique line of custom furniture, "The General Store Collection." This bold and chunky design contains many elements of the furnishings you would have found in stores and homes at the turn of the last century. The bead-board detailing and glass front door take you back to a simpler time. Bob Pascoe, owner of The Salado Sawmill, has created several pieces in this line.

Pascoe uses traditional construction techniques, using only solid woods. "There is no press board or fiber board in my work," Pascoe says. "I use mortise and tenon glue joints and a minimum of mechanical fasteners." The General Store design is very flexible, allowing for the creation of cabinet bases, tables, bookcases and the breakfront pictured here. The entire collection can be seen at saladosawmill.com/generalstore.html.

Pascoe says he can design to your specification. "Just bring in a picture or sketch of something you're interested in and your specific requirements, like dimensions and wood type. I'll provide you with a bid and we can go from there. Pascoe has several other lines, including Arts and Crafts and Country Pine.

The Sawmill, a division of XtraWorX, LLC, is located at 409 Salado Plaza at the entrance to Mill Creek in Salado. Call Bob at 254-947-0137.

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in the Village of Salado?

DECEMBER 13

Salado Lions Club Christmas Lunch, with members and spouses. Belton High School Madrigals will provide a holiday musical program.

DECEMBER 14

Salado Chamber of Commerce Ladies Auxiliary President's Coffee, 9:30 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

DECEMBER 14

Salado Public Library presents "Thursdays at the Library," with Tyler Fletcher presenting a program on "Stained

Glass Church Windows of Central Texas," 6:30 p.m. Free admission and plentiful parking. Info: Alayne, 947-9191.

DECEMBER 14

Salado ISD bands' Winter Concert. Sixth and Seventh Grade Bands: 2 p.m. in the SIS Commons; High School Band, Jazz and Choir: 6:30 p.m. in the High School Gym.

DECEMBER 14

Main Street Gymnas-tics presents "Making Spirits Bright -- A Christmas Collage," 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Inter-

mediate School cafeteria. The event is free and open to the public, and will feature gymnasts, tumblers and dancers performing to a variety of Christmas music.

DECEMBER 15

Salado Ambassadors Christmas Lunch, noon at Holiday Inn Express.

DECEMBER 15-17

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Christmas is on the Air," a special holiday show in the spirit of old-time radio. Enjoy this "live broadcast" on WSPR, brought to you by

Dooickey's Department Store. With Penny and Grainger at the mic and sound effects table, anything can happen. Plenty of live music and holiday hoots. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15 and 16 and 2 p.m. Dec. 16 and 17.

Info: 947-3456 or www.saladosilverspur.com.

DECEMBER 18

Salado Public Library hosts Santa Claus during Ms. Emmy's Storytime, 11:15 a.m. Children and parents encouraged to attend.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

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Coping with a gluten intolerance is not impossible

Many experts believe, and I concur, that the health of your gut is just as important to your physical well-being as the health of your mind.

If you think about the number of receptors that are used from the beginning of digestion (your mouth) all the way to

elimination (your colon) it becomes very easy to understand the importance of all of the organs used during digestion, specifically the intestines and stomach.

We have taken a quick look at food allergies and food intolerances over the past couple of weeks, just a few

challenges for optimal gut health, and now we will spend some time looking at one of the food intolerances; Gluten.

Gluten is a highly complex protein that occurs in three main grains: Wheat, rye, and barley. Some people list oats here, but it still seems to be controversial, so it won't make the list today. Gluten, a glycoprotein

LIFESTYLE AND WELLNESS

By KEVIN McCAULEY



with the molecular name of Gliadin, can be found in all types of grain like whole grain wheat, wheat bran, spelt, triticale and others. This means Gluten is also present in all baked foods

that are made from these grains: bread, pies, cake, breakfast cereals, porridge, cookies, pizza and pasta. There are thousands of processed foods which contain Gluten.

Obviously, Gluten is one of the most complex proteins consumed by man. Because of its very large molecular structure relative to other foods it becomes very difficult for the human digestive system to break down. Problems begin when it reaches the small intestine. In sensitive individuals Gluten actually tears holes in the lining of the gut, creating Leaky Gut Syndrome.

Gluten intolerance is a broad term which includes all kinds of sensitivity to Gluten. A small proportion of Gluten intolerant people will test positive to Celiac Disease test, and so are called "Celiacs."

But most Gluten sensitive people return negative or inconclusive results upon Celiac testing. The correct term for these people is Non-Celiac Gluten Sensitive (NCGS) and may be as many as one in seven, compared to one in 150 for Celiacs. Unfortunately, Celiac testing is still used in many clinics as a first test for Gluten sensitivity, and it only picks up the small percentage of Gluten-sensitive people who are Celiacs.

Many people suffer from headaches, mouth ulcers, weight gain or weight loss, poor immunity to disease, and skin problems like dermatitis and eczema. But the common and well-known Gluten intolerance symptoms are gastro-intestinal (diarrhea, flatulence, bloating etc.). Because the symptoms overlap with many other ailments, Gluten intolerance can be missed or misdiagnosed. Even the medical fraternity concedes Gluten intolerance is poorly diagnosed.

Gluten intolerance - both NCGS and Celiac Disease are genetically inherited (indicators are Irish, English, Scottish, Scandinavian, and other Northern/Eastern European heritages). Some Gluten intolerance may be identified in children, but for others, it is not until much later in life that Gluten intolerance is actually suspected. Frequently it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

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The Holiday Season is upon us! We will only be having 3 mealtime sessions in December. In light of this our gift to you is free assembly for the month.

Remember meals and or gift certificates for Mealtime are a fabulous gift for anybody on your holiday list.

Thank you for your continued support and God Bless you and your families!



December Menus

- Marinated Pork Tenderloin with Spicy Raspberry Sauce
- Buttermilk Baked Chicken Breast topped with Herb Breading
- Caramelized Onion, Bacon and Gruyere Quiche
- Stone Ground Mustard and Balsamic marinated Flank Steak
- Three Cheese Tortellini with Butternut Squash Cream Sauce
- Sautéed Granny Smith Apple in Puff Pastry
- Chili Rubbed Ranch Steaks with Seasoned Fries
- Garlic Shrimp with Tomato Rice Pilaf
- Sesame Ginger Crusted Salmon Filets
- Blueberry French Toast
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- Almond Crusted Chicken Breast

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Calendar of Events

FROM PAGE 3B

December 07, 2006 SALADO Village Voice, Page 5B

DECEMBER 18

Music in Salado annual Members' Christmas Concert, at the home of John and Barbara Robertson, in Salado. More info TBA.

DECEMBER 22-24

Salado Silver Spur Theater presents "Christmas is on the Air," a special holiday show in the spirit of old-time radio. Enjoy this "live broadcast" on WSPR, brought to you by Doohickey's Department Store. With Penny and Grainger at the mic and sound effects table, anything can happen. Plenty of live music and holiday hoots. Show times: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 22 and 23 and 2 p.m. Dec. 23 and 24. Info: 947-3456 or www.

saladosilverspur.com.

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 5

Salado ISD schools adjourned for Christmas and New Year's holidays.

DECEMBER 31

Third Annual New Year's Eve at the Salado Silver Spur. More info TBA.

2007

JANUARY 16

Teacup Tuesday meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church. Program: "Women of the Bible," presented by women of the Salado United Methodist Church. Public is welcome.

JANUARY 25

Meet Your County Officials forum sponsored by Salado Area

Republican Women, 6 p.m. at the Halley House. Buffet dinner: \$20. Info: 947-3617.

JANUARY 29

Salado Masonic

Lodge #296 meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Lodge Building on Church Street.

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Gluten

FROM PAGE 4B

is triggered by some difficult or painful life. The best treatment is to exclude Gluten for life. Gluten is found in the major starches of our diet, if you are concerned that you may be intolerant, eliminate Gluten and replace those grains with rice, corn and potatoes. Some people feel better within days and others weeks. If you are intolerant of Gluten and you do eliminate it from your diet you may find yourself feeling better than ever before. Your gut will thank you.

Next week: Leaky Gut Syndrome

Kevin is a Lifestyle and Wellness Coach/Certified Clinical Nutritionist in Salado. He is the owner/operator of Progressive Wellness Services, a Total Wellness Company. Kevin helps families instill positive lifestyle habits into their lives, including: proper nutrition, smart

exercise and understanding hormonal responses. If you have any questions e-mail Kevin at youbewell@earthlink.net.

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Christmas Spirit through art of story Blacksmith will share stories at Inn

Since 1970, Joe Pehoski has been a professional blacksmith.

This may seem a strange introduction for a Story Teller, but, it must be remembered that anyone choosing traditional blacksmithing as a profession in the late twentieth century must surely be living a dream. However, a dream from which one works, sweats and makes his daily bread is also rooted in reality. At that junction of Dream and Reality Joe finds Story.

Joe didn't actively seek Story; it seems to have sought him. In the summer of 2003 Joe suffered a severe heat stroke that effectively made it impos-



Joe Pehoski

ous, everyone has a story. Each person lives his or her unique, epic Story. Not out of choice but out of necessity. Not alone but as a part of the larger Story we all live together by our shared experiences. Not isolated to this time and place but as part of the larger fabric of humanity that threads back to earliest words shared around the fire. Those stories of defeat and triumph, fear and heroism, grief and joy are our stories. They are your Story.

Pursuing this dream of the Oral Tradition, Joe is now becoming a Story-teller.

Come and hear Joe Pehoski tell during the Salado Village Christmas Stroll. Joe will be telling a series of Christmas Stories for children and one special story for adults. If your children are young enough, or old enough, to pretend themselves as Angles for a little while, they, and you, are of the right age and spirit to be a part of these stories. There is no charge.

Joe will be sharing his stories on Dec. 9, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the patio of "Inn at Salado", North Main at Pace Park Drive as part of the Christmas Stroll Dec. 8-10.

working at his forge full-time. As they say, "If you can not take the heat, get out of the kitchen." It became evident to Joe that he needed to reinvent himself.

That same year, on a whim, Joe attended a Story Telling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee. What he thought would be a few hour "Look-See" turned into three days of fascination and delight. For three days Tellers from around the world told to an audi-

ence of thousands. Young and old alike laughed and openly wept as the magic of the teller's stories were woven around them. Joe left knowing that something had shifted deep within himself.

During his evening walks to Salado Creek with his dog, Coyo, Joe began to see his life as a story; happy, sad, hard and easy in it's turn. His depression began to lift as he realized the obvi-

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Party Recipes

Catalan Bruschetta (Pa amb tomaquet)

Dairy-Free

This traditional Catalan dish is simple and versatile. In Spain, it would be equally appropriate for a second breakfast (desayuno), evening tapas, or along with other fare as a casual dinner. Grilling the bread, instead of merely toasting, lends an air of adventure, especially if each guest grills their own prior to rubbing with fresh garlic. Supply grated Manchego cheese for topping, extra olive oil for dipping, and Cava (the Spanish equivalent of French champagne, 95% of which comes from Catalonia) and your backyard fiesta will have acquired a true Catalan flavor.

Serves 5

6 vine-ripened tomatoes

Sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

1 French baguette or other crunchy bread

1/3 cup good quality extra virgin olive oil

1/2 lb prosciutto or Serrano ham if available, thinly sliced

3 large cloves of garlic, peeled and cut in half on a diagonal

Heat a grill to medium high temperature. Wash tomatoes, cut in quarters, remove the inside seeds and juice from half of the quarters, and then sprinkle all with salt and pepper. Put in a food processor and pulse for several times until reaching a coarse puree. Place in a serving bowl.

Slice the bread on a diagonal in 3/4-inch thick pieces. Brush both sides of the bread with olive oil and place on grill leaving for about 2 minutes and then flipping 45 degrees on the same side (to make a nice cross-hatched mark). Turn slices over and repeat on other side. Once all slices are grilled on both sides, take a of garlic and rub it lightly over one side of the toast. Place the toast on a serving platter, garlic-rubbed side facing up. Top with a tablespoon of the tomato mixture and a few prosciutto slices.

Nutrition Info

Per serving (247g-wt.): 280 calories (170 from fat), 19g total fat, 3.5g saturated fat, 15g protein, 15g total carbohydrate (3g dietary fiber, 5g sugar), 35mg cholesterol, 1380mg sodium

Note: If concerned about sodium in your diet, consider using a lower sodium ham.

Bay Scallops Dijon

Low-Fat, Dairy-Free

Serves 4

1/2 tsp organic extra virgin olive oil

1 medium red bell pepper, julienned (about 1 cup)

1 cup red onion, julienned

1/2 tsp garlic, minced

2/3 cup white wine

3 TB Dijon mustard

1/4 cup chopped parsley

3/4 lb bay scallops

1 lb linguine

Prepare linguine according to package instructions while you also prepare the bay scallops. Heat olive oil in a nonstick skillet over medium high heat. Add bell pepper, onion, and garlic, sauté until vegetables are soft. Add scallops; cook another minute. Add wine, simmer 2 minutes. Stir in mustard, add parsley, heat through. Serve over linguine.

Nutrition Info

Per Serving (209g-wt.): 370 calories (25 from fat), 2.5g total fat, 0g saturated fat, 3g dietary fiber, 21g protein, 65g carbohydrate, 20mg cholesterol, 450mg sodium.

These recipes are courtesy Whole Foods Market © Whole Foods Market, 2000-2006. More recipes and ideas can be found at www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

Please join us this weekend

Brie & Artichoke Dip w/ Baguettes

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Beef Tenderloin Medallions
w/ Jack Daniels Sauce

Snow Peas
w/ Mixed Peppers & Onions

Baked Macaroni & Cheese
w/ Prosciutto & Parsley

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Lighthouse launches Bright Light Tree Project

Lighthouse Family Network, a Christian therapeutic foster care agency, is in the midst of its annual Bright Light Tree Project.

Lighthouse Family Network, a Christian child-placing agency, desires to serve abused, neglected, and delinquent youth at their point of need. Currently, Lighthouse houses approximately 80 children in foster homes.

The Bright Light Tree Project gives local businesses the opportunity to sponsor a Bright Light Tree. Among the local Bright Light Tree locations in Bell County are the Lighthouse Family Network office, located in Salado Plaza, and the 3C Cowboy Fellowship. All trees adorned with ornaments bearing the name of a child. Sponsors can then select a child's ornament, purchase a gift and return it unwrapped or in

a gift bag to the Salado Lighthouse office, where the Lighthouse staff will distribute the gifts to the appropriate foster families before Christmas.

In addition, a gift donor form will also be available at each Bright Light tree location. Lighthouse Family Network is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible.

Lighthouse Family Network traces its origins to 1969, when Leona Lambert opened her home to young boy whose mother was unable to care for him. Lambert was convinced that every child should be given an opportunity, and that all children deserve a chance at a good life. To that end, Lambert worked, along with her husband, until her death in 1991.

In August of 1995, as a tribute to Leona Lambert,

Lighthouse Family Network was licensed as a child-placing agency in the State of Texas, and licensed its first home in 1996. Lighthouse

is currently celebrating its 10th anniversary.

For more information about the Bright Light Tree Project call 947-3152.

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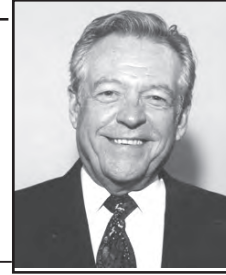
Located at the Front Row Gallery of Shops
Upstairs

230 N Main St | Salado | 512 508 2530



Highlights from my trip to California

by
Tumbleweed
Smith



the house is making all sorts of pumpkin items: pies, cakes, bread, cookies, and even pumpkin potato chips.

The house where she lives has some of the best decorations on the block. On Halloween night, kids flocked to her house for trick or treat. She ran out of goodies. Later, when the doorbell rang, she cheerfully greeted the kids, but told them how sorry she was that she had run out of treats. Kids, ages three to six, when they heard she didn't have any candy or cookies, started giving her some. It was that way a good part of the evening. You just don't hear many stories like that. But it happened in California.

When we took a walk around the neighborhood, my son took us to a hillside around the corner from his house. A brand new four-story house is gradually sliding down the hill, threatening the houses below. It was built for speculation. When the owner realized it was a liability, he left town and hasn't been located. The house is in the process of being demolished.

California sure is an interesting place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there.

We went to San Francisco to celebrate our grandson Aiden's first birthday. The house was decorated in a Bob the Builder theme. Colorful Bob the Builder balloons, hard hats, napkins, plates and glasses were on the table.

Aiden's three-year-old brother Max had some friends of his over for the party. When it came time to serve the cake, everybody crowded around Aiden's high chair to watch him eat a cupcake and get chocolate all over his face. He did it well.

The weather was perfect. It had been cloudy and rainy the previous two days, but on Saturday, the day of the party, the sun came out and the kids were able to go outside.

They banged away at a Bob the Builder piñata suspended from a tree limb in the back yard. Despite numerous tries from the youngsters and some adults, the piñata held fast. The yellow and blue crepe paper on the outside was torn and tattered, but the

goodies inside were protected by some hard cardboard. It was finally opened with a mighty swing from one of the mothers who had some softball experience. Candy spilled out and kids scrambled to pick it up.

California folks are laid back, I must say. The party was to last from 10 a.m. to noon. Parents and their kids started arriving around 11:30 and stayed until nearly 5 o'clock. Time doesn't seem too important to folks in California.

My son BZ and his fam-

ily live in a real neighborhood with lots of kids. Most of the guests at the party walked over because parking is a problem due to all the cars on the street. Hardly anybody uses garages for vehicles. That's where they keep their stuff.

Halloween decorations were still up in houses all over the neighborhood. One of the houses has been for sale for sometime and has been turned into a halfway house for people who are recovering from mental disorders. One of the women who live in

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| Accents of Salado | 11:30am-5pm |
| All Lathered Up | 10am-5:30pm |
| Angelic Herbs | 11am-4pm |
| ArchAngel Antiques | Noon-5:30pm |
| B. Herd Gallery | 11:30am-5pm |
| Bird in the Hand | Noon-5pm |
| Brownings Courtyard Café | 11am-3pm |
| Carden's | Noon-5pm |
| Charlotte's of Salado | 10:30am-5pm |
| Christy's | Noon-5pm |
| Classics on Main | 1pm-5pm |
| Cowboy's Bar-B-Q | 10am-3pm |
| Fletcher's Books & Antiques | 10:30-6pm |
| FSG Fine Jewelry | 11am-5pm |
| Gladys & Sophie's | 11am-5pm |
| Gregory's | Noon-5pm |
| Heirlooms | 10:30am - 5:30pm |
| Leigh's Necessities | Noon-5pm |
| Linda Roundtree Pritchard | By Appointment |
| Magnolias | Noon-5pm |
| Main Street Place | Noon-5pm |
| Matters of the Heart | Noon-5pm |
| Mill Creek Pro Shop | 7:30am-Dusk |
| Miller Fine Art | 1pm - 5pm |
| MJ's Country Corner | Noon-5pm |
| Mud Pies | 11am-3pm |
| National Ropers Supply | 12:30pm-5:30pm |
| Old Salado Springs Celebration Center | By Appointment |
| Prellop Gallery | Noon-5pm |
| Remember This | 11am-5pm |
| RMK Galleries | 11am-5pm |
| Roy T's Old Salado Bakery | 7am-1pm |
| Salado Haus | Noon-5pm |
| Salado Mansion | 11am-9pm |
| Salado Sawmill | By Appointment |
| Salado Silver Spur Theater | 2pm Show |
| Salado Wine Seller | Noon-6pm |
| Southern Comforts | Noon-5pm |
| Splendors | 11am-5pm |
| Springhouse Antiques | 10am-5pm |
| Stagecoach Inn - Coffee | 6:30am-8pm |
| Stagecoach Inn - Dining | 11am-4pm & 5pm-9pm |
| Stanford Court | Noon-5pm |
| Strawberry Patch | Noon-5pm |
| Susan Marie's/Scarletts | 12:30am-5:00pm |
| Sweet Nut Things | Noon-5pm |
| Tenroc Ranch | By Appointment |
| Texan By Design | Noon-4pm |
| The Front Row | 10am-5pm |
| The Sewing Basket | Noon-4:30pm |
| Uncommon Grounds | 9am-2:30pm |
| Walt Tollefson | By Appointment |
| Wells Gallery | 1pm-5pm |

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\$125,000: 2708 CR 423, Bartlett. 10 acres with 3 BR mobile home, barn and pens. Ready for horses.



\$149,900: 918 N. Ridge, Salado. Rustic 3 BR home in Mill Creek. Rough beams, wood floors & bead board add to its charm.



\$159,900: 1501 Bishop Drive, Salado. Walk to the golf course. 3 BR, 2 BA home with solar screens, tiled floors, enclosed back porch.



\$226,900: 100 Chelsea Circle, Salado. 4 BR, 2 BA, white rock with metal roof and cedar trim/ front porch. Great access to I-35!



\$229,000: 380 Salado Creek Rd., Salado. 4 BR, 3 BA close to Salado schools. Fenced back yard.



\$239,000: 1635 Hidden Springs, Salado. Nice covered back porch. 3 BR, 2 BA on 2.29 acres in Hidden Springs.



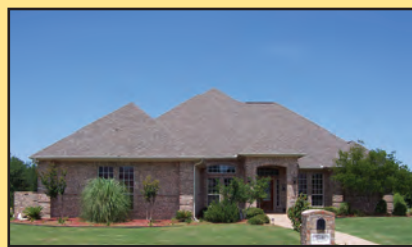
\$244,500: 3416 Chisholm Trail, Salado. Great floor plan. Private wing with 4th BR & 3rd BA are handicap accessible.



\$247,500: 1236 Crystal Springs, Salado. 3 BR, 2 BA on 4.34 acres in Hidden Springs. Heavily wooded.



\$289,900: 117 Salado Creek Place, Salado. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, game room, hardwood floors. Great location.



\$324,700: 2716 Winners Circle, Salado. Overlook 3rd fairway on Mill Creek Golf Course. Study could be 4th BR. Irrigation system.



\$369,900: 608 Whispering Oaks, Salado. 4 BR, 3.5 BA, two living, two dining, with additional bonus room. Beautiful in-ground pool.



\$645,000: 12261 Blackberry Rd., Belton. 4 BR, 3 BA home on 10 acres. Separate guest quarters, barn & outdoor kitchen.

Other Residential Listings

2802 FM 3117, Temple	\$ 70,000
337 Meadow Valley Loop, Jarrell	\$ 155,000
3901 Chisholm Tr. #12, Salado	\$ 169,900
825 Park Dr. #1, Salado	\$ 177,000
18751 Hwy. 95, Holland	\$ 199,700
605 Spring Ct, Belton	\$ 211,900
1425 Bishop Dr., Salado	\$ 216,000
115 Tallwood, Salado	\$ 238,700
2010 Old Mill Road, Salado	\$ 259,000

1003 Heritage Lane, Belton	\$ 272,000
4601 FM 2843, Salado	\$ 294,000
513 Royal View, Salado	\$ 299,000
200 Carriage House, Salado	\$ 339,700
818 Hillcrest Dr., Salado	\$ 347,500
21810 E. FM 487, Bartlett	\$ 389,000
1194 Hidden Springs Dr., Salado	\$ 389,000
14151 Settlements Rd., Salado	\$ 430,000
209 S. Main, Salado	\$ 825,000

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Mary Kay Products 947-3159. Visit MaryKay.com/ AnneMarieHarwell. 5/11tfn

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Granny's House Cleaning. Free estimates/discounts. Move outs. References. Call 254- 947-8533 Salado. tfn

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Vehicles

1998 Jaguar XK8 convertible blue sapphire/white leather 75K miles; 254-947-3478_ 11/3006tfn

For Sale

White gold engagement ring 1.5 carat Platinum diamond band; size 6 \$1800 254-947-3478 11/30/06

1948 Ford 8 N tractor w/ attachments. Good condition 254-947-3478 11/30/06

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Turn-key restaurant on Main Street Salado. Established clientele. Uncommon Grounds Cafe 254-624-5647 5/25tfnb

Employment

Holiday Help Scarlett's Ladies Boutique. 947-3600 Mon- Fri. through Jan. 10th. 12/7-14b

Retail positions available, both full-time and part-time. Please apply in person at the new Trimmings Factory Store located at 1301 N. Stagecoach Rd., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Retail experience is required. 11/16tfnb

Waitstaff needed. Apply in person at Johnny's Barbecue at 301 Thomas Arnold 947-4663 10/5tfnb

Roy T's Bakery immediately hiring bakers, cashiers, baristas. Apply in person at 100 N. Church Salado or call 254-947-7181 8/24tfnb

Now Hiring. Tues-Friday 9:30-2:30 Old Mill Pizza 947-0700

CLASSIFIED CONTINUE ON PAGE 3C



For Sale by Owner

- 4.13 acres in Hidden Springs • Salado ISD
 - 3 BR, 2.5 baths Texas size Master Suite
 - approx. 2678 sq.ft. • Oversized 2 car garage
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1999 Solitaire Manufactured Home 18 X 80 for Sale by Original Owner Upgrades, very clean, new flooring, dishwasher and hot water heater 3bd/2ba Paid \$60,000.00 will take Payoff \$37,000.00 Move or leave in park, 20 minutes from Salado 512-656-3288 11/23tfnb

One acre golf lot with 2400 sq ft. custom home. Private, wooded, can be divided \$325,000 512-554-4987 11/2tfnb

New listing! Easy living in this townhome within walking distance to the Pro Shop and the swimming pool. 2,522 s.f. 3/3 with an office, a sun room and a flex room Outstanding value at \$149,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

Wooded lot on the Mill Creek Golf Course. 3 BR and an office, formals, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, 2 car plus golf cart garage, workshop. On cul-de-sac \$385,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

New Elegant Estate 4/3/3+ on 3 tree-covered acres. Inviting entrance, high ceilings, crown molding, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops, large fireplace, 3+ car garage and much more. **\$399,000.** Call First Texas Brokerage 947-5577 0202F

Separate office/studio. Old Chicago brick show-case home with extensive detailed woodwork. Granite countertops, SS appliances, large live oaks, decks, large game room. \$274,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

A wonderful home with ample space! Great floor plan with 2 living areas and 2 dining areas. Private wing with 4th BR and 3 BA (with great shower) and totally handicapped accessible. Nice covered back patio. Large kitchen has island and lots of cabinets. \$244,500 Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050 0831tfnb

Great 3 BR,2 BA home in Jarrell, built in 1997. Custom cabinets with pull-out drawers in kitchen with island, ceiling fans in every room, new roof in 2005. Refrigerator and stove recently purchased will convey, washer and dryer to convey. Mueller 24 by 24 workshop built-in 1998 with metal roof and concrete foundation. 9 foot ceilings in living room. Motor home hook up. Call office for showing instructions. All measurements are approx. \$155,000 .Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

New home in Mill Creek Springs. Custom craftsmanship seen throughout this 3 BR/2 BA/2 car garage home. Spacious kitchen with Granite counters. Take the virtual tour at www.salado.net. **Priced at \$259,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage, (254) 947-5577

Golf Course Living in Mill Creek! 4/2.5/2 home has granite counter tops, hardwood floors and high ceilings. This is a must-see home. **\$269,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577 tfnf

3/2.5/2 - Beautiful Traditional Home in Salado. Hardwood Floors, High Ceilings, Granite Counter tops, Large Kitchen, and much more! Priced at **\$344,900.** Call First Texas Brokerage at 254-947-5577

tfnf

Wonderful home in Salado ISD. 4 BR, 2 BA, white rock with metal roof and cedar trim/front porch. Rock fireplace, granite countertops. jetted tub in master, carpet and tile floors. Great access to I-35. \$226,900. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 947-5050

Land for Sale

Three 10 plus acre tracts with large live oaks, creeks, hilltop views, quality restrictions, private, gated community with a common area lake. Starting at \$129,800. Call Remax Gold Team /Rita Oden 718-4011

Salado Creek Front 3+Acres. Beautifully cleared parcel in the peaceful, upscale community of Hidden Springs: Paved streets, large parcels, lovely homes and a community park on Salado Creek with tennis!! Priced to sell-build your dream home! Easy commute to Austin: West on FM 2843 off I-35 about 4.5 miles. Must sell - Great land with Great neighbors! Lot 71 on Creekview Dr. Call owner for details: (936)597-5284, (936)203-2766.

The Overlook - wooded estate sized lots with hill top golf course views. Century 21 Bill Bartlett 254-947-5050

MORE CLASSIFIEDS TO FOLLOW ON PAGE 4C




Learn more about advertising in the Salado Village Voice. Call Marilyn at 254-947-5321

 <p>LOOK OUT YOUR WINDOWS AND SEE THIS VIEW OF SALADO CREEK! THIS HOME IS PRICED TO SELL! 4 BR/3.5 BA, LARGE DEN WITH ADDITIONAL SITTING AREA. SIT ON THE DECK AND WATCH THE CREEK FLOW. TWO ADDITIONAL WOOD CREEK-VIEW LOTS AVAILABLE NEXT TO HOME. \$249,900.</p>	 <p>BEAUTIFUL HOME ON OVER HALF AN ACRE. QUIET RURAL SUBDIVISION, NICELY LANDSCAPED YARD, COVERED BACK PORCH, HUGE UTILITY ROOM, GREAT ROOM WITH BUILT-IN DESK. 4 BR/ 2 BA, FORMAL DINING ROOM WITH BREAKFAST NOOK, TWO CAR ATTACHED GARAGE, FIREPLACE, SECURITY SYSTEM. \$224,900.</p>
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Horse property 4/3 with Barn, Storage and Arena nestled on 30 acres with scattered oaks. Home has Pool, Hot Tub and Pipe Fencing.



Call for appointment Dorothy Collier, Broker (254) 415-5592
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14 acres, all woods, deer, secluded, Milam-Bell county line.
25 acres on FM 2115,

South of Salado, Seasonal creek, community water available

40 acres on FM 487 east of Bartlett, some woods, good frontage, water available, will divide.
53 acres on I35 in Belton,

RANEY & ASSOCIATES

ANNA LOU RANEY
Broker/Realtor
254-913-1215

MIKE BOWLES
Realtor
254-913-0469

Thomas Arnold and Church Street

Choice Commercial Property in the heart of Salado's historic district. Three buildings with net rentable space of 5,592 square feet. The site is .63 acres at the corner of Thomas Arnold and Church Street. Easy access to I-35 and Salado's Main Street. \$575,000.



5055 Elm Grove Rd.

Great buy, price reduced! Beautiful 30.03 acre Belton property that borders the Lampasas River. Huge hybrid and native pecan trees. Well-maintained home with large living room, dining room with hardwoods, den, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Amenities include greenhouse, hay barn, equip shed, 6 traps and decks. Must see! \$595,000.



1910 Old Mill Rd. #4

Rare opportunity to own a townhouse with views of golf course and Salado Creek. Close to pro shop, this beautiful home has a formal dining room and large living area with gorgeous hardwood floors, a wood burning fireplace and lots of windows. There are three bedrooms and 2-1/2 BAs, kitchen with granite countertops, new appliances and tile floor, plus a two-car garage. You will love this one. Reduced \$245,000.



1209 Old Mill Road

Great location in Mill Creek. Custom-built, one owner home in need of updating. Nice floor plan with large great room, three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, large study with built-ins. Lots of storage. Pretty, private backyard. \$245,000. Priced reduced to \$192,400.



515 Indian Trail

Gorgeous stone home, landscaped with two-tiered pond in backyard. Large rooms throughout. Two great rooms, two fireplaces, plus separate formals, library. Four bedrooms and unbelievable storage. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$499,000.



1 Jones Circle

Expansive views of Mill Creek 2 Golf Course #6. Large covered patio complete with fountain and grill. This beautiful home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, great room approx. 27'x20' with a WBFP, formal dining, and an oversized garage. Over 3,000 sq ft of luxury living. \$369,000.



2014 Old Mill Road

Fabulous lot with many trees and a bluff overlooking Salado Creek. The lot abuts the golf course, Mill Creek One, hole one, across from the Mill Creek Golf Course Pro Shop. Bring your creative ideas for this unusual building site. \$29,000.

Mill Creek Homesites

Premier Half-Acre Lots in restricted Mill Creek Golf Course subdivision. Underground utilities, ready for custom homes with only 2,000 sq. ft minimum.

1801 Kevlin Trail
1900 Kevlin Trail

1901 Kevlin Trail
1808 Kevlin Trail

all utilities, excellent location, good road frontage
64 acres, NE loop 363 Temple, woods, creek, owner finance, very scenic and well located, \$3,950
64 acres near Academy on hwy 95, very scenic, some woods, good road frontage, city water.
75 acres south of Salado, good road frontage, lovely views
105 acres, excellent location, ponds, water meter, beautiful terrain, near Salado
151 acres, great view, some trees, south of Salado, two sides road frontage.
18.5 ac. Davilla, 2300 plus sq ft, Larry Lilly Home. Every eminity, shop, beautiful trees \$389,000
94 acres, all coastal grass, good fences, phond, Academy schools
Call Paul @ 721-8778 or Bill @ 947-5050 or Bill @ Century 21 Bill Bartlett Salado 947-5050 www.c21bb.com 10/26 tfnb

Commercial Rental

Salado warehouse space for rent Secure 22x40' with tall ceiling, sturdy shelving and two 8'doors \$240 mo. 947-5502 or 721-1807 12/7tfnb

For Rent Storage building in downtown Salado. Approx. 850 SF. ft. Call 254-947-5577 First Texas Brokerage 101206tfnb

Old Church Place (office Space) Two private offices with full bath and large reception/secretary area. Wonderful kitchenette area. 1000 sq.. ft. \$800 mo. Call Properties by Larry Sands at 254-913-5467 for showing and more information 6/29tfnb

Residential For Rent or Lease

2 BR. Mobile home washer & dryer, water, garbage, storage. Must be quiet and clean. No pets \$400 254-947-5760 12/7-14p

Free Dec. rent 3 BR 2 BA doublewide 913 Pine Wood Dr. Off Verna Lee in Harker Heights. HUD approved. 254-947-4708 Leave message. \$650 mo. \$4000 deposit. 12/07b

Brand new Duplex, Belton 219 W. Ave D. 2 BR, 2 BA Approx. 950 sq. ft. \$650 mo. Call 947-0999. 11/30-12/7/06p

Charming, spacious, 2/2/1, townhome for rent, \$850. 6 closets, vaulted ceiling, w/d closet inside, Walk to shopping center. Lawn care provided. 254-338-5083.

For Rent: Cute home on Prairie Lane, Salado ISD, 3BR 2BA, fenced backyard, \$1200/mo.; \$900/SD Village Realty 947-0342

Home located on 1/2 acre in rural Salado subdivision. Fenced backyard. 3BR/ 2BA \$1200/mo.; SD \$900 Call Village Realty 254-947-0342

2400 SF on 1.14 acres in Salado Springs. Only \$1200 mo. Rita Oden, Re/Max gold Team 718-7956

AUCTION SATURDAY

Dec. 9th, 6PM
346 Main – Rosebud, TX
Preview Friday 6 - 8PM
and 2 hours prior to sale
collectibles, antiques, furniture
household items. Estate items from
Belton, Marlin, Cameron & Houston,
as well as local consignments.
Concessions available.
Public welcome. NO buyer's premium. J. Bartosh 13414
Info, pictures & online bidding at:
www.aauction.net

Estate Sale

An Estate Sale will take place this coming Saturday, December 9th, 8 AM - 1 PM, to benefit Celebrate Recovery. It will be held at the Youth House on the back lot of First Baptist Church, Salado. It includes antiques, dishware, ladies clothing, Christmas decorations, office supplies, fabric, art supplies, sheets, towels, comforters, exercise equipment and much, much more. There are over 100,000 items which will be available this Saturday only from 8 AM - 1 PM.

Salado Village Voice

Place a Classified ad

First 15 words \$5, .20 per word after

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Attach this form to your classified ad and bring it with payment to our office at 213 Mill Creek Drive, Suite #125. A drop slot is available after hours for your convenience. Ads can also be mailed with payment to PO Box 587, Salado, TX 76571.

	Start date	
First 15 words	\$5	
additional words _____ x .20 = _____		End date
weekly price = _____		Total ad price
number of weeks to run _____		

Classified ads are due by noon Monday for that weeks edition.

Energy Star can make your home energy efficient

Do you leave a window open during the winter? You may not think so, but if you add up all the gaps and cracks in your home, they can equal a hole the size of an open window! Needless to say, all those air leaks create uncomfortable drafts and make your heating system work harder than it has to. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that U.S. homeowners may be paying up to 10% more on their yearly energy bills due to air leaks and insufficient levels of insulation.

Could this be happening in your home? It is a very common problem that is hard to recognize if you're not aware of symptoms. Cold walls and floors, drafts, and even big icicles hanging off your roof in the winter are signs that your home is not working right. But there is good news: the Energy Star program (sponsored by EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy) has advice for you this winter that can increase comfort and reduce those winter energy bills. By sealing the air leaks and adding insulation to your home, you not only make your home more cozy, but also save money and help our environment.

1) Locate the Leaks Start by locating the holes, gaps and cracks that allow air to sneak in and out of your house. Typically, you can feel the small holes and gaps around windows and doors, but the biggest holes are almost always hidden in the attic and the basement. In the attic, look for dirty insulation patches where dusty air has leaked out around pipes, wires, vents, or open spaces leading down into walls. Inspect around the chimney or furnace flue and around attic hatches or doors.

2) Seal the Gaps Once you find the leaks, use caulk, expanding spray foam, or foam board to cover the common holes. Caulk is best for small gaps around windows and doors, and the other materials allow you to cover or seal larger spaces. Use metal flashing and high-temperature caulk around chimneys and flues that can get hot. Weather strip attic hatches or doors. These affordable and easy-to-apply products are readily available in home improvement stores.

3) Add Insulation After all major leaks are sealed in the attic, you can add insulation. Even if you already have some, it is often cost effective to add more. Sealing air leaks and adding insulation work together to maximize your comfort and energy

savings, so you'll want to do both. Sealing holes is like putting a "wind-breaker" on your house, and adding insulation is like a "sweater". On a cold and windy day they work together to keep you warm.

4) Look for the Energy Star If new windows are in your future, be sure to choose Energy Star qualified models to save even more energy and money. They will add an extra defense against extreme weather, and can also make your home quieter.

EPA has a "Do-It-Yourself Guide to Energy Star Home Sealing" at www.energystar.gov/home-sealing. The guide includes step-by-step instructions for sealing and insulating yourself, with color photos and diagrams to guide you through the process, and tips on how to make your job easier. If you decide to hire a contractor to do this work, be sure to find one who will seal those attic air leaks before installing the insulation. Making these improvements will help you make it through the winter with more money in your wallet while helping the environment.

Be careful when buying firewood for winter use

Texas Forest Service is encouraging Texans to be careful when collecting and purchasing firewood at this time of year. Transporting and storing diseased wood is a known means of spreading the devastating oak wilt fungus to previously uninfected neighborhoods. Utilizing these prevention steps is the key to safeguarding against spreading the disease through the selection and use of firewood:

- Select well-seasoned firewood. Well-seasoned wood is cut before the summer and is typically dry with loose bark and cracked ends. Avoid oak wood that appears unseasoned, that may have tight bark and cut ends which show no cracks or signs of aging. The extreme heat and drying of a full Texas summer effectively destroys the fungus in cut firewood.

- Safely store unknown sources of firewood. If the oak wood comes from an unknown source and it is not well seasoned, cover the woodpile with a clear piece of plastic. Burying

the edges of the plastic will prevent the entry or exit of insects that might have been attracted to diseased wood and fungal mats.

- Destroy diseased red oaks. A knowledgeable arborist or forester should diagnose red oaks (i.e., Spanish, Texas red, blackjack or shumard oak) that die rapidly (two - three weeks) or in groups (two or more trees over several years) for oak wilt. Trees suspected to have died recently from oak wilt should be destroyed by burning, burying or chipping. The heat of a fire destroys the fungus and the smoke emitted poses no threat to healthy trees. Red oaks that have died from oak wilt should not be stored or used for firewood. When planning to do any outdoor burning, be sure you check with local officials to see if an outdoor burning ban is in place for your county and take care not to burn on windy days with low humidity.

- Avoid wounding oaks during vulnerable seasons. The general recommendation is to avoid injuries to oaks from February through June. The best times for pruning of

oaks are during the heat of summer (minimal spore production) or the cold of winter (minimal insect activity).

- Paint all oak wounds including pruning cuts. Throughout the year, immediately apply a thin coat of latex or pruning paint to all fresh wounds and other injuries that expose the inner bark or sapwood of oaks. This prevents contaminated sap beetles from infecting the wound with oak wilt spores.

Oak firewood is an important commodity to Texans, whether it's used for firing up the barbecue pit or for warming up the home on a cold winter's day. By selecting well-seasoned, disease-free firewood and by following other disease prevention guidelines, homeowners are taking the correct steps to prevent a new oak wilt disease outbreak in their neighborhood. Visit www.texasoakwilt.org or call Jim Houser, TFS Coordinator for Oak Wilt at 512-339-4589 for more information.

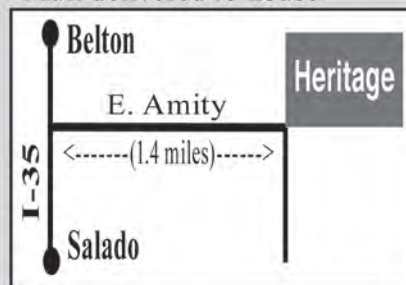


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- No City Taxes
- Lots \$39,500 & Up
- Highly Restricted
- No Homeowners Association
- Combined lots at discount
- Mail delivered to house



Large lots with views available in Highland Estates near Belton schools and just 5 minutes from the lake. Call Cindy at 254-760-2387.



Large 3/2/2 townhome in Mill Creek with large beautifully landscaped back yard. Great location.



Three bedroom, 2 bath for sale on over half an acre in Salado. Lots of updates, large covered front porch, dining room etc. Great property. Call to see this one. \$149,900



Peggy Bush - Owner/Agent
254-624-4070
Suzanne Payne - Owner/Agent
254-721-3605
Cindy Humphries -Agent
254-760-2387

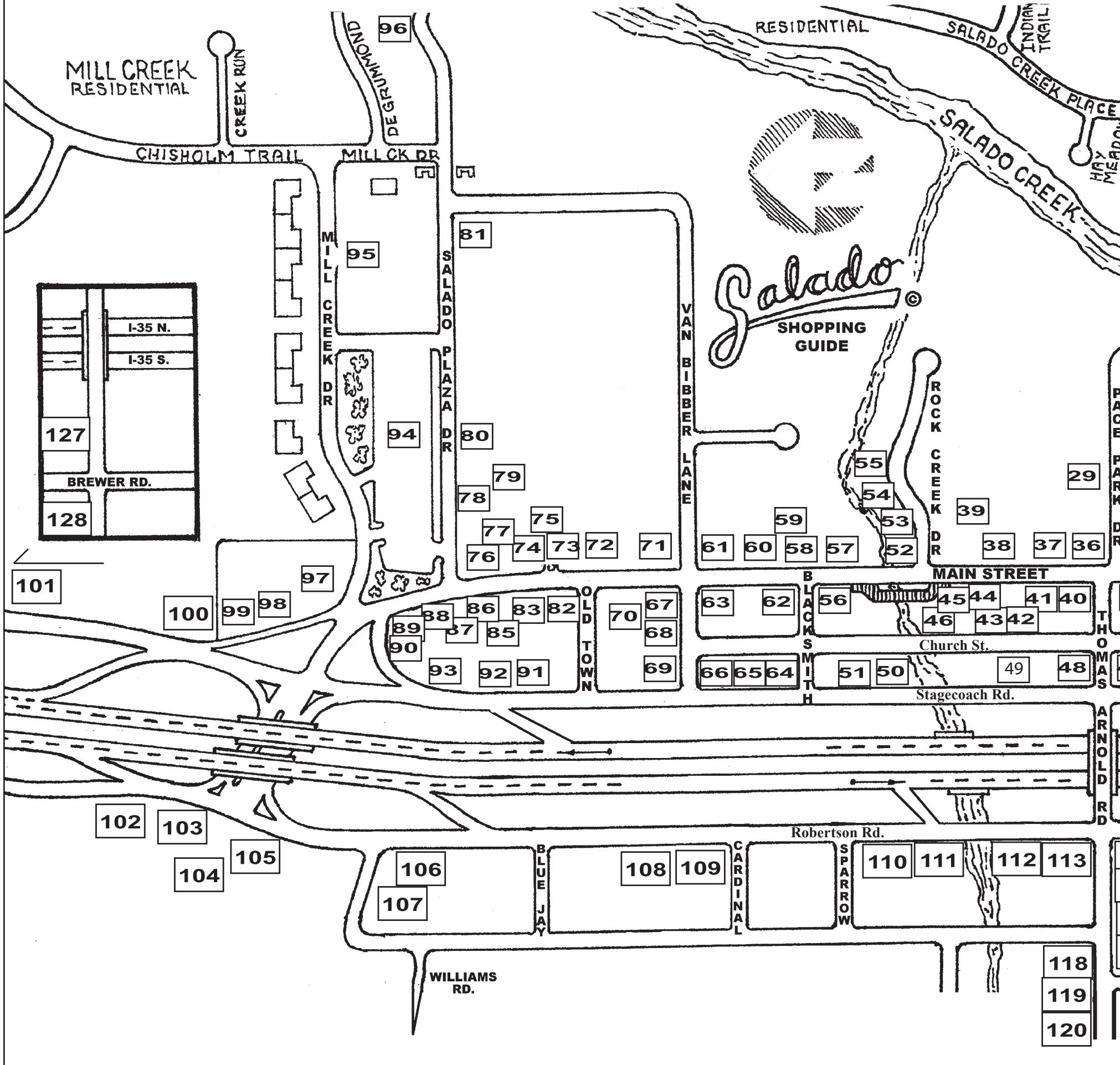
Austin stone ranch style home. 10 acres, huge barn, riding arena, coastal. Good area. Spanish tile and gorgeous plank flooring. Immaculate in and out. \$340,000.

Come build your home in the country. Salado 25-40 acres planted in coastal, hardwood trees, wonderful homesite. \$3,800 per acre.

13.25 acres and 96 Doublewide Mobile, Unrestricted, Salado Schools, Water and Electric for 2nd Mobile and water, septic and electric for a third. or live in DW and build your own home. Nice homes in area. Possible owner finance. \$164,500. Call Peggy

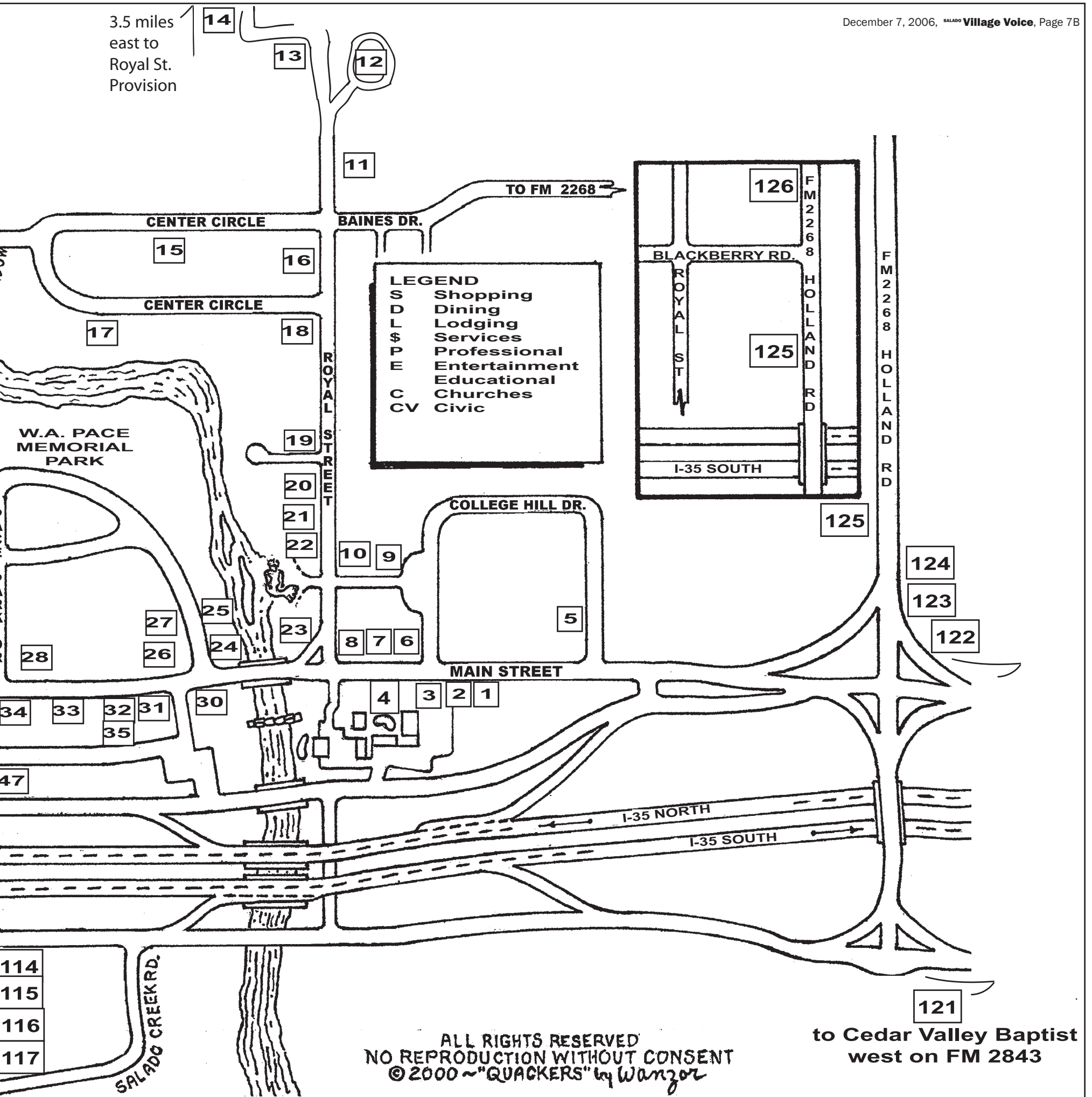


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3.	SHOPS AT THE STAGECOACH								
	Salado Cigars	254/947-9177	S						
4.	Stagecoach Inn	254/947-5111	D,L						
5.	Stone Creek Settlements	254/947-9099	L						
		888/777-8844							
6.	Central Texas Area Museum	254/947-5232	E						
8.	SHADY VILLA								
	Gregory's	254/947-5703	S						
	Sweet Nut Things	254/947-8088	S						
10.	Shyenne's of Salado	254/947-9215	S						
11.	Tablerock Amphitheatre	254/947-9205	E						
13.	Salado United Methodist Church	254/947-5482	C						
14.	Royal Street Provision	254/947-3350	L						
	Country Inn								
	(3.5 miles east on Royal)								
16.	The Baines House B&B	254/947-5260	L						
17.	Inn on the Creek B&B	254/947-5554	D,L						
	CELEBRATION CENTER								
18.	Botangles	254/947-4747	\$						
	Old Salado Springs Celebration								
	Center and Retreat	254/947-5933	\$						
19.	Old Salado Springs								
	Guest Lodging	254/947-5933	L						
20.	Springhouse Antiques	254-947-0747	S						
22.	Salado Silver Spur Theatre	254/947-3456	E						
24.	Accents of Salado	254/947-5908	S						
25.	Leigh's Necessities								
	and Floral Creations	254/947-0128	S, \$						
26.	CREEKSIDE CENTER								
	Prellop Fine Art Gallery	254/947-3930	S						
	Susan Marie's	254/947-5239	S						
30.	First Baptist Church	254/947-5465	C						
31.	Salado Mansion	254/947-5157	D						
32.	THE VERANDA								
	First Texas Brokerage	254/947-5577	\$						
33.	First State Bank	254/947-5852	\$						
34.	FIRST CENTRE at 40 N. Main								
	First Community Title	254/947-8480	\$						
35.	Salado Masonic Lodge #296		CV						
36.	Christy's of Salado	254/947-0561	S						
37.	Inn at Salado	254/947-0027	L						
38.	SALADO SQUARE								
	Browning's Courtyard Cafe	254/947-8666	D						
	Carden's	254/947-0300	S						
	Linda Rountree Pritchard	254/947-4263	P						
	Main Street Place	254/947-9908	S						
39.	The Range at the Barton House	254/947-3828	D						
40.	Family Dentistry	254/947-5242	P						
	Dr. Douglas B. Willingham								
42.	Mud Pies Pottery	254/947-0281	S						
44.	Salado Haus	254/947-1868	S						
48.	A Touch of Heaven	254/947-5543	\$						
		254/535-6676							
49.	Roy T's Old Salado Bakery	254/947-7181	D						
50.	Farmers Insurance	254/947-0995	\$						
	Zbranek Agency								
	Salado Fire Department	254/947-8961	CV						
51.	Salado Church of Christ	254/947-5241	CV						
	ROCK CREEK								
53.	Splendors of Salado	254/947-3630	S						
54.	Charlotte's of Salado	254/947-0240	S						
55.	Heirlooms	254/947-0336	S						
56.	OLD CHURCH PLACE								
	The Front Row Emporium	254/947-5831	S						
	Trouve	512/508-2530	S						
57.	THE COLONY								
	Centraland Title Company		\$						
	Griffith Fine Art	254/947-3177	S						
	Miller Fine Art Gallery	254/947-0771	S						
60.	The Iron Gardens	254/368-1928	S						
61.	SALADO CIVIC SQUARE								
	Joe Read State Farm Agency	254/947-3599	\$						
	Properties by Larry Sands	254/947-5580	\$						
	Uncommon Grounds Cafe	254/947-3354	D						

3.5 miles east to Royal St. Provision



to Cedar Valley Baptist west on FM 2843

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The Bluffs at Salado Creek

65.	The Village of Salado	254/947-5060	CV	The Timbers at Salado Sawmill	254/947-0137	L	104.	Fairway Golf Carts	254/947-4065	S	
68.	Serenity Spa	254/947-8833	\$				108.	Scissors Hair and Nails	254/947-9001	\$	
70.	STAGESTOP RETAIL CENTER			82.	OLD TOWN SALADO		111.	Super 8 Motel	254/947-5000	L	
	Angelic Herbs	254/947-1909	S		Cathy's Boardwalk Cafe	254/947-8162	D	115.	Johnny's Steaks & Bar-Be-Que	254/947-4663	D
	A Sewing Basket	254/947-5423	S	86.	Remember This Antiques	254/947-0858	S	116.	Johnny's Texas Banquet Hall	254/947-4663	D
71.	SALADO CIVIC CENTER			87.	Century 21 Bill Bartlett Real Estate	254/947-5050	\$	118.	Thomas Arnold	254/947-5191	E
	Salado Civic Center	254/947-8300	CV				119.	Salado Intermediate	254/947-1700	E	
	Chamber of Commerce	254/947-5040	CV	88.	The Personal Wealth Coach	254/947-1111	\$	120.	Salado High	254/947-5429	E
	Historical Society		CV	94.	SALADO PLAZA		121.	Cedar Valley Baptist Church	254/947-0148	C	
	SISD Administration	254/947-5479	E		Salado Village Voice	254/947-5321	\$	122.	Eagle Rock Ranch	254/947-5369	\$
	Village Art Center				Edward D. Jones	254/947-5128	\$		Rick's Salado Feed	254/947-3613	S
72.	The Halley House	254/947-1000	L		Monteith Abstract & Title Co.	254/947-3922	\$		Salado Garden Center	254/947-3613	S
73.	CARRIAGE PLACE SQUARE				RE/MAX Gold Team	254/947-4011	\$	124.	St. Stephen Catholic Church	254/947-8037	C
	Salado Tanning & Fitness	254/947-5814	\$		Salado Chiropractic	254/947-BACK	P	127.	Grace Baptist Church of Salado	254/947-5917	C
					Salado Eye Care	254/947-LENS	P				
					Village Pharmacy	254/947-3185	\$				
	ARCHANGEL ON MAIN			95.	Coldwell Banker	254-947-3388	\$				
74.	Merle Norman Cosmetics	254/947-9993	S	96.	Mill Creek Golf & Country Club	254/947-5144	D,L				
	Etrulia's	254/947-0504	S	97.	Salado Public Library	254/947-9191	E				
	Salado Wine Seller	254/947-8011	S	98.	Salado Cleaners	254/947-7299	\$				
76.	ArchAngel Antiques & Architectural Salvage	254/947-5933	S	99.	Trimnings	254/947-9475	\$				
79.	Presbyterian Church of Salado	254/947-8106	C	100.	Village Realty	254/947-0342	\$				
81.	Salado Sawmill	254/947-0137	S	101.	Holiday Inn Express	254/947-4004	L				
				102.	Robertson's Hams and The Choppin' Block	254/947-5562	S				

Not shown on map
The Event Center at Tenroc Ranch
2 miles west of I-35 on Thomas Arnold Rd.
512/947-9218 \$

Your Salado business can find its place on this map and on the web with a weekly ad for just \$10. Call Salado Village Voice at 254/947-5321.



M.J. Craig Homes

254/526-9646

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE
 2006 Palm Harbor 16X76. Ready to move to your land. Very nice, barely lived in home with ceiling fans and wood deck. \$38,000

Please call Marcie at 512-415-7786



Properties By Larry Sands



1213 Indian Trail Just remodeled & Ready for Occupancy!! NEW wood floors, FRESH interior paint thru-out. STYLISH ceramic floors & appliances in kitchen!! Tremendous big TREES & privacy fenced yard. **Reduced \$219,900.**



This lovely Salado Landmark can be your new **Business address!!** The historic Vickrey House at 402 North Main Street, presently home of Seasons of Salado, with 150' frontage on Main and Church Street, is NOW available for your retail shop, tea room, or gallery. Call us for a professional after-hours viewing.

Properties By Larry Sands
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HEB announces 2007 Excellence in Education Awards deadlines

Everyone remembers an educator who changed their life in a profound way. Now, you can change theirs by nominating them for the 2007 HEB Excellence in Education Awards. With more than \$500,000 awarded in cash and grants, it is the largest monetary awards program for educators in the state.

Nominations for the 2007 HEB Excellence in Education Awards are now being accepted. Head to any HEB store or visit www.heb.com to obtain a form and nominate a teacher, a principal or a school district that represents outstanding excellence in the field of education. Nominations will be accepted through Dec. 31. Educators and school districts may also nominate themselves.

"We encourage the community to step up and nominate individuals or school districts that are truly making a difference in the lives of students. This is a chance to thank these outstanding educators and administrators for

the amazing things they do each day to reach out to and teach our children," said Kate Rogers, Director of the HEB Excellence in Education Awards.

Now in their sixth year, the HEB Excellence in Education Awards are designed to honor teachers, principals and school districts who are dedicated to changing the future of Texas through excellence in the classroom.

Teachers who are award finalist will each receive a \$1,000 check and a \$1,000 grant for their schools. Principals on the finalist list will be presented with a \$1,000 check for themselves and a \$2,500 grant for their schools.

Small school districts (1A and 2A) named finalists will receive \$2,500. Semifinalists will each receive a certificate of recognition and HEB gift cards.

Each winning principal -- one elementary and one high school -- will each receive \$10,000 in cash for themselves and a \$25,000 grant for their schools. The

winning large school district will receive a \$100,000 cash prize and the winning small school district will receive \$50,000.

The six winning teachers will include one elementary and one secondary teacher in each of three categories: the Rising Star Award, the Leadership Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Rising Star Award honors teachers with less than 10 years of experience. These winners will receive a \$5,000 check for themselves and a \$5,000 grant for their schools.

The Leadership Award honors teachers with 10-20 years in the classroom. These winners will each receive a \$10,000 check for themselves and a \$10,000 grant for their schools.

The Lifetime Achievement Award salutes teachers with more than 20 years of experience. These teachers will each receive \$25,000 in cash for themselves and a \$25,000 grant for their schools.




For information about purchasing a lot or building your dream home call:
Chris Alexander, Builder
254-947-5369
254-702-6959
calexander@bestconstruction.com



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- ★ Wooded Estate Lots 2.5 to 3.5 Acres
- ★ Underground Electric
- ★ 3 Miles West of I-35 on FM 2843
- ★ 5 Minutes from Downtown Salado
- ★ Quality Restrictions
- ★ Salado Schools

Award-winning builder for Builder's Choice
 Best Kitchen
 Best Bath
 Best Interior Decor
 Best Craftsmanship




Santa comes in all shapes and sizes

This year consider those in need in our community.

The Salado Family Relief Fund helps out families year round, not just at Christmas time. A gift to them does more than put presents under a child's Christmas tree, it puts school supplies in their backpacks and food on their table. Temporary assistance is given to families needing medicine, rent, clothing and other common necessities throughout the year.

Monetary donations are welcome year-round. Salado Family Relief Fund has accounts at both Compass Bank and First State Bank. Checks to Salado Family Relief fund can be mailed to PO Box 461, Salado, TX 76571.

Toy drive part of second Saturday at Planetarium

Second Saturday activities at the Mayborn Planetarium and Space Theater will be held Dec. 9 starting at 11 a.m. This month's event will feature a toy drive and a presentation on planetary conjecture.

The toy drive will benefit Central Texas College's adopted military unit, 3rd Battalion/227 Aviation Regiment. The unit recently deployed to Iraq leaving family members without their own Santa for the holidays. Anyone bringing a new, unwrapped toy to the Planetarium on Second Saturday will receive \$1 off a ticket for any scheduled public show. Those wishing to donate toys outside of Second Saturday may bring the toy to the Planetarium during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Donors will still receive the \$1 discount to any public show.

Also on Second Saturday, the Planetarium's resident astronomer, Warren Hart, will make a presentation on a unique phenomenon known as planetary conjecture. This event occurs when two or more planets appear to gather in the same area of the sky. This month, Mercury, Mars and Jupiter will appear to be pulling closer and closer together. And while the planets appear to be close together, in reality they are separated by tens or hundreds of millions of kilometers.

Hart, a former U.S. Air Force navigator and astronomical guide for Texas Parks and Wildlife, will provide insight as to the best viewing times and demonstrate how to see the planetary conjecture.

In addition to the toy drive and presentation, guests can check out the child-friendly matinee line up of shows on Second Saturday. Beginning at 1 p.m. is "In My Backyard." Children's entertainer, Fred Penner, leads a lighthearted exploration of things large and small from the colors of the rainbow to the counting of ladybugs on a rose. Families with children age seven and under investigate the night sky, the names of the planets, the reasons for the seasons and shooting stars all from the safety and comfort of the backyard. Show time is Dec. 9 at 1 p.m.

Then explore the wonders of the sky in a unique planetarium show geared to pre-school age audiences - "The Sky Above Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Kids will laugh, sing and learn about the wonders of the day and night skies with Fred Rogers and his band of Neighborhood-of-Make-Believe friends. Wondering about the moon, the shapes in the clouds and the stars of the Big Dipper will spark children's curiosity and imagination about science in this show, starring Fred Rogers. Show time is Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.

Immediately following Mr. Rogers is "Legends of the Night Sky: Orion." This is a fun look at the myths surrounding one of the night sky's most famous constellations. Characters of the Orion story are brought to life in full-color laser light. This animated pre-

sentation is followed by a live tour of the night sky that will help you find Orion and his companions.

The large format film SOLARMAX runs at 3 p.m. Every 11 years the sun's poles reverse with unimaginable violence. The peak of the storm is called a solarmax. Now you can experience the hot phenomena in the cool comfort of the Planetarium through this breathtaking giant-screen adventure. For the first time, audiences around the world will be able to look directly at the sun and see it as never before, through the eyes of the large-format film camera. The film uses computer data generated by the Solar and Heliospheric Observer (SOHO), providing audiences with a spectacular sense of actually being there.

The matinee concludes with the laser light show "Laser Holidays" at 4 p.m. The annual laser light celebration of the winter and holiday season includes such favorite holiday classics such as "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Burl Ives and "White Christmas" by Bing Crosby interspersed with other modernistic versions of holiday favorites including "Jingle Bell Rock" by Randy Travis, "All I Want for Christmas is You" by Mariah Carey and "Winter Wonderland" by the Eurythmics. "Laser Holidays" also runs Friday and Saturday nights at 9 p.m.

Also playing at the Planetarium is the award-winning large format film "Coral Reef Adventure." The film reveals the vast array of curious creatures that inhabit the reefs; introduces the everyday heroes fighting to save the reefs; and teams of up with scientists exploring the reefs for potent new medical cures and never-before-seen species that are adding to what we know about life on earth. Follow the inspirational, personal quest of underwater filmmakers and oceanographers Howard and Michele Hall as they document the imperiled coral reefs of the South Pacific and the worldwide challenge to save

them. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m.

Next is the planetarium show "Season of Light" which examines the cause and effect of seasonal changes on Earth. While studying the constellations of the winter night sky, "Season of Light" explores fascinating astronomical phe-

nomena such as comets, meteors, planetary alignments, novae and supernovae as the potential scientific explanation for the star seen by the Magi on their journey to Bethlehem. The program also investigates the origin of familiar holiday traditions as well as those observed by cultures

around the world. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Also in the lineup is the laser light show "Laser Metallica" featuring the heavy metal sounds of one of the music genre's best known bands. Songs include "Fuel," "One" and "Unforgiven II" along

with several tracks from the band's controversial album "Black." Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 10 p.m.

For more information about Second Saturday, the toy drive or tickets for the current lineup of shows, please call 254-526-1800.



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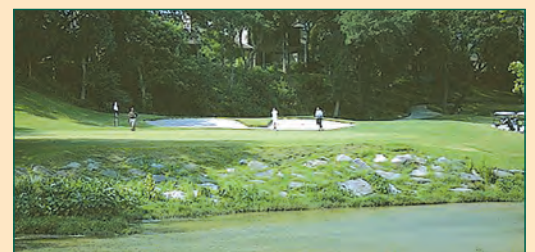
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By KAREN SUE KINNISON
LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Christmas is in the air! The famous Salado Christmas Stroll is on for this weekend and we even have Christmas-y weather for the events ahead! Now to get you in the spirit of Christmas (and to give you something to do while those boring --- oops, I mean fascinating! relatives--- are hanging around!), here is a list of seasonal books and videos you might want to have on hand for the holidays:

New arrivals!
Finding Noel by Richard Paul Evans. This is the first Christmas novel R.P. Evans has written since **The Christmas Box**, a bestseller, and he has written this for his mother. It is a lovely story.

Santa Cruise: A Holiday Mystery at Sea! By Mary Higgins Clark

The Handmaid and the Carpenter by Elizabeth Berg

A Christmas to Remember by Thomas Kincaid

Already in the collection but worth reading again for the season:

Shepherd's Abiding

Check It Out



News & Notes from Salado Public Library

– **A Mitford Christmas Story** by Jan Karon

The Christmas Box – Richard Paul Evans

Christmas at the Ranch – Elmer Kelton

Ester's Gift by Jan Karon

Skipping Christmas by John Grisham-- A favorite from a year or two ago!

He Sees You When You're Sleeping by Mary Higgins Clark

The Gift by Nora Roberts

The Christmas Letters by Lee Smith

The Shoe Box: A Christmas Story by Francine Rivers

Mistletoe from Purple Sage by B. B. Smith

And also---old time favorite movies for the whole family to enjoy—

A Christmas Carol
Miracle on 34th Street
Christmas with the

Kranks
The Muppet Christmas
How the Grinch Stole

Christmas
The Homecoming: A

Christmas Story
And a personal favorite

of mine – *Love Actually*. Also be sure to make note of this upcoming event here at the Salado Library!!

It's "Thursday Nights at the Salado Public Library"!! Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m., Mr. Tyler Fletcher of Fletcher's Antiques and Books will present a slide show and narration of photos of old stained glass church windows from Texas. This will be a free event sponsored by the library and will last for about 30 minutes. Some of the stained glass shown by Tyler has been used at St Luke's Episcopal Church in Belton and at the St Joseph's Chapel here in Salado.

Come and see these beautiful slides of very old stained glass windows and hear their stories.

ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN FROM 9 to 91!!!--- SANTA IS COMING !!!!

Santa will making an appearance at the Salado Public Library for Miss Emmy's storytime on Monday the 18th of December! He will stop by to say hello and give us all some advice about being "nice" rather than "naughty" this year. He won't be here long so be sure to get here on time at 11:15 to see Santa because he has to go to the North Pole and get really busy right away! Parents—bring your kids down to the library with their "lists" and get that important info to Santa while you can!

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Save energy at home this winter

(SPM Wire) With lower temperatures come higher heating costs. And with Americans already spending more than \$160 billion a year to heat, cool and light their homes, cost-consciousness is more important than ever.

According to recent research from the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC), 57 percent of homeowners who recently remodeled or purchased a new custom-built home saw increased household energy costs, and virtually all respondents anticipated costs would continue to rise.

That's why PERC and other energy experts are urging homeowners to scrutinize their heating and energy choices to keep their homes comfortable and their wallets fuller.

"Americans are not powerless when it comes to their energy choices," said Scott Morgan, host of HGTV's "Dream Builders" show. "Homeowners can see a big difference by making a few small changes in the home, developing an energy plan and taking advantage of new tax credits. And families building new homes have a huge opportunity to make smart energy choices that will pay off over the long term."

As such, PERC is encouraging homeowners to save on energy costs by creating a three-step en-

ergy plan:

- * Explore fuel payment plan options to spread your projected annual costs over many months, balancing the costs of seasonally higher bills.

- * If you use a fuel that requires delivery, such as propane, set up a regular delivery schedule with your retailer. Consider filling your tank before the start of the heating season rather than waiting until it is empty.

- * The federal government is offering a tax credit of up to \$500 for qualifying energy-saving improvements made during the 2006 and 2007 calendar years. Credits are available for many home improvements including high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment such as propane water heaters and furnaces. For more information visit www.energytaxincentives.org.

- And with the average American home losing up to 50 percent of its energy through inadequate insulation and inefficient appliances, according to experts like HGTV's Morgan, PERC is offering these easy tips to help consumers lower their energy bills:

- * Inspect and tune-up your residential heating system regularly. A heating system that runs well is more efficient and saves money.

- * Change your furnace filter regularly. Clean filters will increase efficiency.



Wrapping your hot water heater with an insulated blanket like this can save you money and energy.

- * Consider switching to a propane water heater. Propane water heaters can save up to one third as compared to electricity, and they heat more than twice as much water in an hour as a comparable electric model.

- * Turn down your water heater to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. You could save more than 10 percent on your water heating bill.

- * Wrap your water heater in an insulating blanket.

- * Increase your water heater's efficiency by draining it every six months to remove mineral deposits and sediment.

- * Vacuum dust off refrigerator coils every three months. It takes less energy to cool that way. Check the gaskets around the door and make sure it shuts tight.

- * Install flow-restricting showerheads. You can reduce hot water usage by up to 50 percent without affecting shower pressure.

- * Run washing machines, clothes dryers, and dishwashers with a full load.

- For additional energy savings tips from PERC, visit www.usepropane.com.

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Questions & Answers
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Is hydrogen a safe alternative to gasoline?

Dear EarthTalk: I'm concerned about all the talk of using hydrogen for fuel. Isn't hydrogen what caused the Hindenburg blimp to explode back in the 1930s? -- Doug, via e-mail

The explosion of the Hindenburg blimp in Lakehurst, New Jersey in 1937 killed 36 people and was one of the worst air disasters of the period, but hydrogen was probably not the culprit. Addison Bain,

a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) researcher, investigated the Hindenburg crash in 1997. He concluded that, while the Hindenburg did use hydrogen for buoyancy, the cause of the accident was an electrostatic charge that ignited the blimp's highly flammable waterproof skin, made from a mixture of lacquer and metal-based paints that Bain likened to rocket fuel.

Others argue that a spark ignited hydrogen that was leaking from the ship. But witnesses described the fire as very colorful, whereas hydrogen burns without much of a visible flame. But whether or not hydrogen caused or simply contributed to the ensuing blaze, hydrogen is indeed flammable, and can burst into flames when it comes into contact with fire or another ignition source.

But gasoline, by far the most common automotive fuel in the world, is much more flammable than hydrogen. According to hydrogen proponent Daniel Emmett of Energy Independence Now, hydrogen is 14 times lighter than air and when it catches fire it disperses and extinguishes quickly. Gasoline, on the other hand, is heavier than air and stays flammable much

longer. Many people don't realize, Emmet adds, that hydrogen has been used safely for decades in many industrial and aerospace applications.

Besides being less flammable than gasoline, hydrogen has many other benefits. It is nontoxic, which is more than can be said for any petroleum-based fuel. Furthermore, the processing (not combustion) of hydrogen in fuel cells produces no harmful pollutants and emits only pure, potable water as well as heat that can be recaptured for other uses. In contrast, the combustion of gasoline and other automotive fuels leads to acid rain, smog and global warming, among other environmental problems.

Despite its benefits, the widespread adoption of hydrogen as an automotive fuel is not yet close at hand. Techniques for producing, storing and transporting hydrogen have to be standardized, and costs reduced substantially. Some hydrogen proponents see a future where hydrogen will fuel vehicles at service stations, as is now done with gasoline; others see a future in which people fuel their cars at home from appliances that make hydrogen from electricity or, further down the road, from solar

energy.

In 2003 the Bush administration committed \$1.2 billion to a hydrogen initiative in order to "reverse America's growing dependence on foreign oil by accelerating the commercialization of hydrogen-powered fuel cells to power cars, trucks, homes and businesses with no pollution or greenhouse gases." Under the initiative, says the White House's "Hydrogen Economy Fact Sheet," "the first car driven by a child born today could be powered by fuel cells."

CONTACTS: National Hydrogen Association News, "Hydrogen Exonerated in Hindenburg Disaster," www.hydrogenassociation.org/newsletter/ad22zepp.htm; Energy Independence Now, www.energyindependencenow.org; White House "Hydrogen Economy Fact Sheet," www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/06/20030625-6.html.

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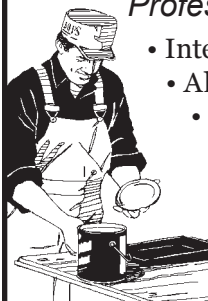
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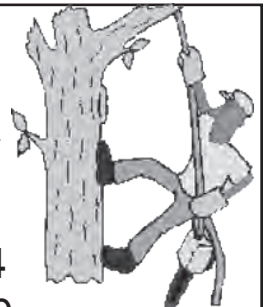
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Earthtalk: Are there safe hair dyes?

Dear EarthTalk: I'm a hair stylist and am wondering about the health and environmental impacts of the styling products I use every day on my customers. -- **Misty Rohrbaugh, Asheville, NC**

Millions of people around the world use shampoos, conditioners and dyes on their hair regularly without any discernable harm. But recent studies have linked some of the ingredients in these products to various human health problems, so hair care professionals and consumers are well advised to know their options.

Traditional shampoos and conditioners, the most commonly used hair care products, contain a synthetic detergent called Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), which generates a sudsy lather. But SLS can dry the scalp, stripping the skin's surface of its protective lipids. It can also cause follicle damage, hair loss, skin and eye irritation, and allergic reactions such as rashes and hives.

Other problematic chemicals in most mainstream shampoos and conditioners are parabens--sometimes listed as methylparaben, propylparaben, ethylparaben or butylparaben--which are added as preservatives to ward off mold and mildew. Morris Shriftman, Senior Vice President with Avalon Organics, says that these chemicals are dangerous because they accumulate in the bloodstream where they can "mimic" naturally-occurring hormones like estrogen, and disrupt

human endocrine function accordingly. Parabens are also of particular concern to oncologists, who report finding the chemicals in breast cancer cells.

Luckily, a number of manufacturers make available shampoos and conditioners free of SLS and parabens, making it easier for stylists and customers alike to do the right thing. Aveda, Avalon Organics, Aubrey Organics, Dessert Essence Organics, Jason Natural Products and Simply Organic, among many others, use organic herbal extracts to do the jobs normally associated with synthetic chemicals. These products are readily available at natural foods markets and increasingly in mainstream supermarkets.

Studies trying to prove links between hair dyes and cancer or birth defects have turned up mostly inconclusive results, although the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) National Center for Toxicological Research found that the majority of off-the-shelf hair dyes for black, red and blonde hair contain a known carcinogen, 4-ABP. Also, according to the FDA, some consumers have reported burning, redness, itching and swelling of the face from hair dyes, as well as hair loss and difficulty breathing. The FDA does not regulate hair products, but John Bailey, director of the agency's color and cosmetics program, cautions consumers to "consider the lack of demonstrated safety" when considering a hair dye.

FROM PAGE 10C

tint, and Clairol's Castings line. Hennas, which are available in most salons, are also a good safe, non-permanent option.

CONTACTS: FDA Office of Cosmetics and Colors, www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-toc.html.

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Salado**

RESIDENTIAL • FARMS & RANCHES • COMMERCIAL



Fresh Paint and New Flooring makes this traditional home in Mill Creek ready for you. 3 BR/2.5 BA/ 2 GA. **\$219,000.**



Virtual Tour!
New Austin Stone Home located just west of Salado in Salado school district. This 3 BR/2BA/2GA is convenient to Harker Heights and Stillhouse Hollow Lake. Energy Star rating! Priced at **\$199,900.**



62 Acres: Beautiful homesite with outstanding view. Large live oaks on part of property. Perfect for a horse farm. Just west of Salado off of FM 2843. Property joins Eagle Rock Ranch. **\$500,000.**

Acreage/Lots

36 acres, west **SOLD**. \$6,000 per acre. 33.20 acres southeast of Salado. Great for Horses! **\$182,600.**

Lot in Mill Creek. Perfect for a Patio Home!

Lots w/ sewage & water on Shady Lane. 10 acres oak trees, electricity & well, **\$130,000.**

2.7 acres fronting FM 2843. **\$29,900.**

3.018 acres on FM 2843. Large pecans & live water. **\$35,000.**

44 acres off of Firefly Road between Salado and Florence. Great Trees Will divide.

Lot overlooking Salado Creek, ~~\$50,000~~ reduced to **\$29,900!**

Indian Trail at Blaylock, lg corner lot, 90x188.

Indian Trail - 90x188.

Lot 231 & 232 Hidden Springs: Over 8 gorgeous tree-covered acres with Willingham Creek frontage. **\$200,000.**

Commercial

1.32 acre fronting I-35 with home, **\$350,000**

30 acres fronting I-35, 1 mile south of Stagecoach Inn.

.87 acres off N. Stagecoach Rd. **\$147,408.**

Approx 2.5 acres off College Hill with small home for ~~\$300,000~~ **UNDER CONTRACT**

Bell County

5+ acres fronting SH 190 and Boxer Road. Great commercial location. Belton city water available. ~~\$200,000~~ **SOLD**

Exit 305 North of Temple. .54 acres with existing station. Excellent business opportunity.



Virtual Tour!
Granite Countertops and open floor plan make this new Texas ranch style a must see. This 3 BR/2BA/2GA is minutes away Harker Heights and Stillhouse Lake, but still in Salado ISD. Energy Star rating. **\$209,900.**



Virtual Tour
Outstanding view from this one of a kind Texas Design Estate. Stainless Steel Kitchen Aid Appliances, Granite Counters Throughout, & Much More!!! 5BR/3.5BA **\$424,900.**



Open and spacious! Great location in Mill Creek. Features marble and pergo flooring, nice master suite, fenced backyard with covered patio. 3 BR/2BA/2GA Priced at **\$174,900.**



Great Price with Excellent Location! Open Floorplan, sprinkler system, alarm system, storage shed and much more to this 3BR/2BA/2GA. Priced at **\$149,900.**



Virtual Tour!
Unbelievable Kitchen! Stainless steel propane cooktop, custom cabinets and granite countertops. All on over 2 tree-covered acres. **\$269,900.**



UNDER CONTRACT
3/2 - Rare Find located just northwest of Salado. Log Home on over 10 acres with barns all for just **\$199,900.**



Updated Spanish Hacienda. Features include central vac and intercom systems, hardwood floors, spacious master suite, wood beams, stone pillars, granite counters, indoor, outdoor fireplaces. **\$539,900.**



Spectacular Texas ranch-style home highlighted by its extravagant wood craftsmanship. Granite counters and exposed beams make this 4 BR/3.5BA/2GA a must-see! **\$489,900.**



Absolutely beautiful traditional home in Mill Creek. Extra large bedrooms, 2 fireplaces, sun room, game room, large covered porches and patios, etc. Priced at **\$297,500.** Call for more info.

We have buyers interested in your Salado area residential, acreage and commercial real estate. Call 947-5577 to connect with these buyers.

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254-718-2000**

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**Alan Persky
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